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ROYALTY AS MYTH

Is there a future for the monarchy?

Marina Warner, Weekend



TOUGHING IT OUT

Comic strips v computer games

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BERNARD INGHAM

Major, the toffs and the tabloids

The press and No 10, page 8

WEEKEND MONEY
Six pages
23-28

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THE TIMES

No. 64,645 SATURDAY MAY 15 1993 50p

'Give up? Give over' call as Major rallies party

■ John Major says he is beginning his fightback. With key European elections only a year away, he does not have long to revitalise his war-weary troops

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Major launched a battle for his political survival last night, promising a renewed campaign against crime as the centrepiece of a populist programme aimed at uniting his fractious and demoralised party.

In a direct response to the drubbing at last week's polls, the prime minister made clear that he was ready to listen to voters' concerns, but insisted that the government would not give up its reforms. "Give up? Give over," he told Scottish Tories in a muted echo of Margaret Thatcher's "the lady's not for turning" speech.

The prime minister did, however, come close to apologising for the recession in living memory. They simply lurch from one catastrophe to the next, leaving chaos and dismay in their wake. Public tolerance is ebbing with the speed of a riptide."

The prime minister acknowledged in his Edinburgh speech that public patience was limited, and his characteristically homespun address will be seen as a sign of his determination to win back the voters' trust. He underlined this message by saying that, not for the first time, he was "coming out fighting".

He told party activists that the government had four years to recover from the serious setback of the Newbury by-election and the shire hall rout. But he knows that with European elections only a year away, he will have to move faster to stave off the threat of a leadership challenge.

Seeking to counter accusations of drift and indecision punctuated by repeated U-turns, Mr Major pointed to the limitations imposed by a majority of just 18. "We cannot always grandly sail ahead, oblivious to all," he said. "We may have to tack a little here, manoeuvre a little there. That's politics. But we cannot and will not hold back on our objectives. So don't expect a bland parliamentary programme; there will be red meat aplenty. Don't expect us to shrink from controversial decisions, because we won't.

"We won't beat Liberals, Labour and nationalists by imitating them — pale, pink and poisonous as they are. We are Conservatives. We must think like Conservatives. We must act like Conservatives."

Turning to the economy, he admitted policy mistakes in the late eighties. "We all became too confident. We took our eye off the ball. We allowed inflation to creep back." That had to be brought under control, and doing that meant high interest rates, higher unemployment. "It led to bankruptcies and home repossessions. I would have given all I had to avoid it. But if we hadn't done it, people would have suffered all those things and we would still have had the inflation.

"People's patience is not unlimited. They have been hurt out there. And they are reacting. And although we can see that the recovery is underway, it isn't obvious in the pay packet. It isn't obvious in the

Continued on page 2, col 7

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Victim's plea

A Tory activist called for at least one woman appeal court judge after giving the conference a harrowing account of how she was sexually assaulted by a bogus priest. "Judges do not understand the nature of this type of crime," she said .....Page 8

and admitted that people had been hurt by it. He also confirmed that he wanted to keep his Chancellor, in spite of the doubts of many of his backbenchers, and paid tribute to Norman Lamont's "determination, skill and guts".

Mr Major's endorsement of the Chancellor came after a fresh attack by John Smith, who said Mr Lamont was drowning in a flood of scorn and derision from both the public and his own party. The Labour leader was also scathing about Mr Major, telling firemen in Bridlington: "There has never been a weaker, more incompetent, more clueless administration

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The Open University degree results will be published on Monday.

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VENABLES DISMISSED AFTER BOARDROOM COUP

ROBIN MAYES



Out but not down: Venables, with his daughter Tracey, right, talking to reporters after learning of his dismissal

Spurs drop their fans' hero

BY JOHN GOODBODY, SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

TOTTENHAM Hotspur, one of England's most distinguished football clubs, was in disarray yesterday with players, staff and supporters protesting at the sacking of Terry Venables as chief executive.

Alan Sugar, chairman of the club and head of electronics company Amstrad, was being blamed for the dismissal of a highly successful coach and manager, who is now considering legal action. Sugar and Venables saved Tottenham from Robert Maxwell two years ago in a famous takeover battle.

Sugar told a staff meeting that Venables, who owned 23 per cent of the shares compared to Sugar's 43 per cent, had been dismissed because the chief executive constantly involved himself in the commercial side of the club without consulting him.

On the eve of the FA Cup Final at Wembley when Tottenham's great rivals, Arsenal, will be bidding to win their second trophy this season, many supporters were threatening to boycott White Hart Lane. Venables was mobbed as he left the board meeting at the ground. Gordon Durie the Scottish striker, said: "I do not think Sugar realises how much Venables means to the players and supporters. I think he has made a big mistake and that is the attitude of most of the lads to whom I have spoken."

Spurs in turmoil and background, page 36

French siege gunman says he will kill the children

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

A LONE gunman described as intelligent, cool and determined, held six nursery school pupils and their teacher captive for a second day in a western Paris school yesterday.

A government minister and police chiefs played for time against his threats to blow himself up or kill the children. For most of the day, only bird-song and the murmur of bystanders could be heard outside the Commandant Charcot school in the elegant suburb of Neuilly-sur-Seine, while police and Nicolas Sarkozy, the local mayor and budget minister, talked with the gunman who seized the class of 21 children on Thursday morning.

In the evening, a van which police said contained ransom money, was driven to the street beside the school, led by M Sarkozy's official car.

As well as being armed with a revolver, he claimed to be wearing an explosive device, holding the detonator in his left hand. Under the heading of "reprisals", the man, who signed himself HB, said his hostages would "have blood taken, with or without medical assistance" which could lead to their death.

The man was demanding 100 million francs (£12 million) and the guarantee of an elaborate getaway. Parents of the six remaining hostages, aged three and four, waited in a room across the corridor from the class of Laurence Dreyfus, 30, the teacher whose courage throughout the ordeal has made her a national heroine. After a brief sleep early yesterday morning, she returned to the classroom to keep the children following their normal routine.

The man, said to be French, white and in his thirties, allowed a child psychiatrist, one of a team at the school, to talk to the children at lunchtime. She said the gunman was spending some of the time playing with the children.

Police said the man, who is masked and dressed in black leather, was highly determined and calm despite his lack of sleep. They knew little of his identity though he claimed to have been behind a mysterious explosion in a car park last Saturday also in Neuilly.

The most revealing glimpse of the man's personality came in his eight-page statement. It demanded the money in used notes from the Bank of France. He demanded a Geiger counter, apparently to spot any radioactive traces which might be put on bank-notes notes.



Release: a mother hugs her freed child

Once sure of his safety he would release the last children, the text said, according to the version in France Soir. The gunman asked police to provide him with an automatic weapon "to protect himself" and stipulated that television cameras should be there to film him when he left with his captives.

At one point the gunman asked for proof that Charles Pasqua, the interior minister, had been told of the situation. The minister, who is also president of the Haut de Seine county government, sent in his own identity card.

Classroom trauma, page 13

Driving is safer in a Jaguar, crash league tables show

BY KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

JAGUAR cars are the safest on the road, according to a government league table of crash ratings for 90 models published yesterday by the transport department.

The tables indicate that a driver in a Citroen 2CV is four times more likely to die in a two-car crash than the driver of a Jaguar XJ6 saloon.

For the first time, car buyers will be able to check how the most popular models stand up to an impact with another car. Ministers have grown increasingly concerned that while drivers can find out speed and performance details of their cars, they have no idea whether they are safe or not.

Transport officials say the tables help to highlight models which have the best safety systems, such as side impact bars, airbags and anti-lock brakes. Kenneth Carlisle, the roads minister, said: "I hope this leaflet will help people to make sensible and informed decisions when they are buying a car. We know that if we could improve the safety of cars, we would reduce casualties on the road."

The Automobile Association welcomed the leaflet as one of the biggest steps forward in road safety for years. Doug Houston, the AA's chief engineer, said: "This sort of information has been available to customers in America and Scandinavia for some time and will now give potential buyers a true picture of a car's all-round performance."

However, the tables will make grim reading for car manufacturers whose models score badly. Transport department researchers studied 70,000 accidents which involved injuries to 88,000 drivers, including 1,000 deaths and 10,000 serious injuries, in a two-year period up to 1991. They discovered that the Citroen 2CV, now out of production, had the worst rating, with 11 per cent of drivers killed and 83 per cent injured when in collision with another car, compared with Jaguars, in which only 3 per cent of drivers were killed and 28 per cent injured.

Researchers said size was probably the most important factor in being able to climb unhurt from a smash. Drivers of small cars, in the Fiat Panda or Ford Fiesta class, are 50 per cent more likely to be injured than those in large cars, like a Ford Granada.

Halfords, through its national chain of shops and repair centres, is distributing 500,000 of the leaflets, which show that about two-thirds of cars are of average safety, with 21 models offering above-average protection while 12 were below average.

League table, page 3

RAF Tornados force Croat helicopter to land

FROM MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT
IN VITEZ

TWO RAF Tornados forced a Croatian army helicopter to land in a field near Vitez after it was caught trying to fly ammunition to Croat troops in Central Bosnia, in the first Nato action of its kind since the no-fly zone was enforced.

The Soviet-built Hip transport helicopter had received permission to fly on a casualty evacuation mission. However, the Croat crew flew away from the agreed flight path. Military sources estimated that at least 20,000 rounds of ammunition were on board.

The sources said in Vitez that the two Tornado F3 aircraft were on combat patrol on Thursday from Gioi del Colle in southern Italy when they became aware of a "contact" on their radar. They tried to contact the pilot but were ignored.

The RAF planes from 11 squadron then "buzzed" the helicopter, forcing it to land in a field in Novi Travnik, near Vitez, the main British base. The Hip helicopter stayed on the ground for a short time and then took off, heading toward Busovaca, southeast of Vitez. The attempt to fly in ammunition was believed to be part of a build-up of Croat forces around the town of Travnik, about eight miles west of Vitez. There are reports that the Croats are preparing a large-scale attack on Muslim forces in the area.

Clinton troop hint, page 12
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A DAY OF SALES, A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITY

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Canon pleads for bombed City church

Canon John Halliburton, a leading Anglo-Catholic and chancellor of St Paul's Cathedral,has called for the restoration St Ethelburga, the medieval church destroyed by the Bishopsgate bomb (Ruth Gledhill writes).

In an address to the Ecclesiological Society, which studies church art, architecture and liturgy, Canon Halliburton said that St Ethelburga's should be rebuilt, just as churches were rebuilt by Wren after the Great Fire of London. If it is, he says, "this will be a triumph, not just for the heritage, but for the Christian people of London and many others besides."

Canon Halliburton argued forcefully that "where a church was lost a church should be restored". He said: "St Ethelburga's stands for continuity. St Ethelburga's says that there has always been a Christian presence in this city." His address contained strong implicit criticism of evangelicals in the Church of England who oppose any reconstruction of the devastated church, and indicated the extent of the divisions over the future of the site.

'Independent' query

Juan Luis Cebrián, chief executive of Prisa, the Spanish multimedia group that owns *El Pais* newspaper, said yesterday he did not know whether it would increase its 19 per cent holding in *The Independent* group. Señor Cebrián, speaking after a meeting of the European Publishers Council in Madrid, said Prisa had a perfect relationship with Newspaper Publishing. He expects a meeting next month on the future of the group, about 20 per cent of which is owned by the Italian newspaper La Repubblica.

Ennals orphan dies

A Vietnamese orphan who was rescued from poverty by Lord and Lady Ennals died in a shooting incident at an army firing range at Sennybridge, Powys, on Thursday, the defence ministry confirmed. Phuoc Ky Ennals, 22, a rifleman with the Royal Green Jackets, was alone when he died and the army said no one else was involved.

Stabbing death charge

A 17-year-old boy appeared at Greenwich Youth Court accused of the murder of Stephen Lawrence, 18, who was stabbed to death as he waited for a bus in Eltham, southeast London. The accused was also jointly charged with a 16-year-old with the attempted murder of another youth a month earlier. The 17-year-old was remanded in custody.

Trip for royal couple



Commander Tim Laurence, right, the Princess Royal's husband, is to join her on a foreign trip for the first time when they visit Central Asia. The highlight of the July trip is likely to be Mongolia, which under communism was virtually closed to outsiders. The couple will also visit the former Soviet republics of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. The trip is seen as a way of encouraging the countries' reforms.

Airport guard in court

Philip Wells, a former Heathrow security guard, was remanded for a week in custody yesterday at Uxbridge, west London, accused of stealing nearly £1 million. Mr Wells, 48, is accused of stealing £928,886 in cash from the travel company Thomas Cook on July 14, 1989, while working as a guard at the airport. There was no application for bail.

Boys, 10, deny killing

Two ten-year-old boys yesterday denied the abduction and murder of James Bulger, 2, of Kirkby, Merseyside. They also denied the attempted abduction of a second two-year-old child on the same day. February 12. Mr Justice Morland ordered that the trial of the boys should begin at Preston Crown Court on November 1.

Major finds juggernaut government stuck in a ditch

JOHN Major sought last night to educate his party in the realities of his government's weakened position. In doing so, he made an admission that Margaret Thatcher never had to make: that a Tory government could not do all it wished in the face of a small Commons majority.

There was a refreshing and rare candour in Mr Major's acknowledgement about the "serious setback" the Tories had faced in the recent elections, and about how "we cannot always grandly sail ahead, oblivious to all; we may have to tack a little here, manoeuvre a little there". That is not the language of the 1980s. The era of triumphalist

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

juggernaut government is over. Political speeches are often more significant for what they reveal about the state of mind of the speaker than for any lasting impact on public opinion and events.

Last night's address to the Scottish Tories showed a prime minister fully aware of the constraints he faces, even though this means he cannot offer the unqualified conviction approach of his predecessor.

Mr Major's strategy for political recovery rests on the absolute priority of reuniting his party. Ahead of the Danish referendum and the third reading of the Maastricht bill next week, he sought to stress an agreed European agenda to "put the arguments behind us".

Instead, the emphasis will be on a domestic agenda intended to unite the party and meet the public's concerns over law and order (which he repeatedly stressed), education, manufacturing and making public services more responsive. Few Tory MPs would dissent from these proposals. The Tories are determined to contest Tony Blair's attempt to make inroads for Labour on the issue of crime.

Mr Major also prepared the way for compromises and concessions that may be necessitated by the government's small Commons majority, which may be even smaller in a year's time. The government is not going to opt for a cautious approach of consolidation. It will press ahead but its measures will have to take more account than in the past of the strengths of the opposition.

Mr Major's approach makes sense as a means of trying to restore his political authority and move to a calmer period. However, his speech also had a substantial gap. He made no direct reference to the most serious difficulty his government will face over the next year: the need to reduce the high level of public sector borrowing. There was no hint of the likely tight squeeze on public spending and probable further tax increases in the late November budget. These will severely test not just the political will of the government, but also the unity of Tory MPs.

Mr Major was right last night to lower expectations about what his government can achieve, but he should also have made a start on educating his party to the pain ahead on spending and taxes.

PETER RIDDELL

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Conference reports, page 8
Leading article and letters, page 15

Swan seeks order from Oman as receivers work for rescue

BY PAUL WILKINSON

SWAN Hunter was last night preparing a £20 million tender for two patrol boats for the Omani navy as receivers from Price Waterhouse sought to unravel the company's financial problems.

The 2,200 workers at the Tyne shipyard knew that plans for further orders depended on talks in which Mark Homan, one of the receivers, was trying to reach a deal with the defence ministry that would allow work to continue on fitting out three frigates. Success would guarantee at least some jobs until the end of next year. Failure would mean the end of shipbuilding on the Tyne.

Sea trials of the first frigate, HMS *Westminster*, scheduled for yesterday, had been postponed pending the outcome of the talks, but preparations for sailing today went ahead.

Price Waterhouse staff continued scouring the company's books for a way to sell the company as a going concern. "They are working with the directors and others to see what can be done," a spokesman for the accountants said.

The Omani tender, which must be submitted by this weekend, would not save the yard, but would provide work for several hundred men for a year if it is reprieved. Swan Hunter is the only UK company seeking the order.

David Clark, Labour's defence spokesman, urged the government to find the company "some breathing space". He said: "I understand that they cannot bring forward orders for the assault ship replacements for HMS *Fearless* and *Intrepid*, but there is refitting work coming up for several fleet auxiliaries."

Dr Clark will open Wednesday's Commons debate on Swan with a call for an enquiry into the tendering process that left the yard pricing the navy's new helicopter carrier at up to a third more than the successful bid from VSEL at Barrow.

"There are number of questions which want answering," Dr Clark said. "One is, did VSEL and Swan bid for the same ship? Another is the suggestion in some quarters that it was a question of price versus cost or even loss ... It has been suggested that VSEL put in a low tender to win the order while taking a profit elsewhere on other defence contracts."

Dr Clark will also point out that the government's tendering process is based on competition and that "if Swan Hunter closes, there will be no yard other than VSEL in Britain capable of building a ship larger than a frigate". He is asking the prime minister how much Swan is owed by the defence ministry. The company claims that £20 million is outstanding.

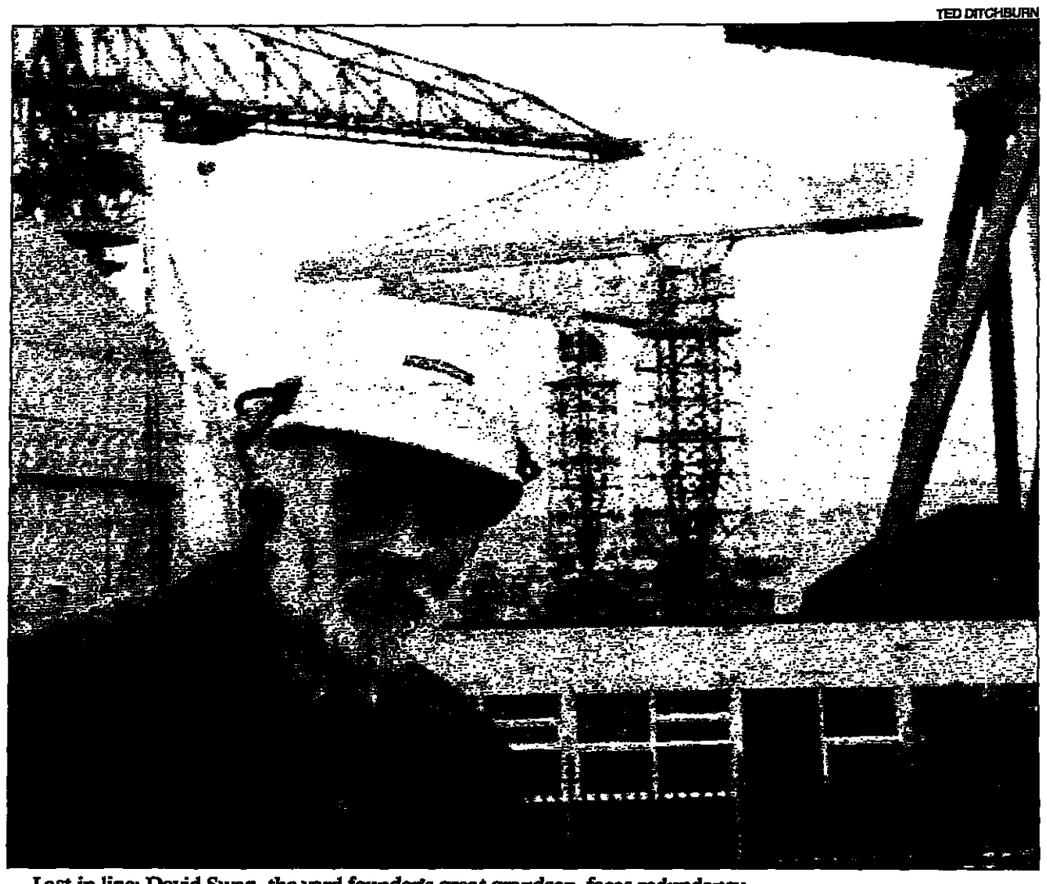
The great-grandson of Swan Hunter's founder is one of those facing redundancy. David Swan, 53, is the fourth generation of his family to work at the yard founded in 1872 by Charles Sheriton Swan, although it has long passed from family control.

"I know that my great-grandfather Charles Swan would have been devastated and disbelieving if he could have seen the receivers walking into the yard he struggled to build," Mr Swan said.

Mr Swan, who has worked in the quality assurance section for 25 years, said: "It is a very sad time in our family's history and a desperate hour for the yard. My future is as uncertain as that of everyone."

"My grandfather, Sir Charles Swan, saw the company through the depression of the twenties and thirties, when he even ordered the men to make garden furniture because he didn't want his prize workforce broken up, but that looks like happening."

TED DITCHBURN



Last in line: David Swan, the yard founder's great-grandson, faces redundancy



Sir Charles Swan: saved firm in 1930s

Guardian to pay £27m for Observer

BY COLIN CAMPBELL AND ALEXANDRA FREAN

LONRHO, the international trading group which bought *The Observer* in 1981 in a £6 million share deal, yesterday signed a contract to sell the newspaper and its related publications to *The Guardian* group for £27 million.

Lonrho has agreed to pay redundancy costs up to £5 million and meet *The Observer's* operating losses, up to a maximum of £.132 million for the period up to September 1. *The Guardian* will pay Lonrho in two halves: £13.5 million on completion of formalities, which could be before the end of the month, and £13.5 million one year later.

The Scott Trust, owner of *The Guardian*, also announced yesterday that Jonathan Fenby, deputy editor of *The Guardian*, is to be the next editor of *The Observer*. Mr Fenby will take over from Donald Trelford, the current editor, as soon as ownership of the paper passes to the *Guardian* group.

Lonrho said it was for the new owner to decide what, if any, redundancies were necessary. Hugo Young, chairman of the Scott Trust, said that *The Observer* would continue to be edited independently of *The Guardian* and would retain its separate character.

The Observer reported pre-tax losses of £8.7 million in the year ended September 30, 1992, compared with 1991 pre-tax losses of £14.9 million. The net worth of *The Observer*, Britain's oldest Sunday newspaper, was written down to £nil in Lonrho's 1992 accounts.

The sale of *The Observer* is subject only to the approval of Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, who said yesterday he would like to reach his decision as quickly as possible.

Under legislation relating to newspaper mergers in Britain, a reference to the Mergers and Monopolies Commission would be automatic unless Mr Heseltine was satisfied the paper was not economic as a going concern and that the case was one of urgency.

Mr Fenby and Peter Preston, the editor of *The Guardian* will meet staff on *The Observer* at their Battersea headquarters in London next Tuesday to discuss details of the deal and the possibility of redundancies.

A source at *The Guardian* ruled out the possibility of seven-day editorial production for the two titles, but added that the papers may share some of their foreign correspondents, an arrangement already in place for some of their overseas stringers.

☐ *The Independent* is to pay "substantial" libel damages to Conrad Black, chairman of The Daily Telegraph plc, and its solicitor and secretary Anthony Rentoul, it was announced in the High Court yesterday. The settlement follows the newspaper's article about the approval by Telegraph shareholders of the company's purchase of a £70 million stake in the Canadian publisher Southam Inc.

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MPs split on licences for drug dealers

BY STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

A SENIOR Scotland Yard detective's call yesterday for research into licensing supplies of illegal drugs brought a mixed response from MPs, ranging from outright rejection to support for opening up a debate.

Commander John Grieve, head of the criminal intelligence branch and a veteran drugs investigator, urged exploration of licensing at a national police conference. He said the time had come to "think the unthinkable". Orthodox controls had failed and it was time to consider waging global war on the dealers or look at new directions.

Sir Ivan Lawrence, Conservative chairman of the all-party Commons select committee on home affairs and a criminal lawyer, said the idea was preposterous. "You don't reduce the use of drugs by encouraging the use of them. The only way you will reduce the amount of crime and the harm that drug-taking does is by getting your forces of law and order organised in such a way as to stop the abuse of drugs."

Tony Lloyd, Labour MP for the Stretford constituency which includes Moss Side, said: "Unfortunately the present home secretary and his predecessors have always pretended they have a strategy to deal with drugs when the truth is simply that more and more people have suffered in this way. It is a very practical attempt to take the violence and the profit out of the drugs trade."

Group 4 given more prison escort work

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE government is preparing to pay Group 4 to carry out more prison escort duties in spite of the disastrous start to its operation of the first privatised escort service.

Group 4, whose reputation has been badly damaged by the death of a prisoner in its custody and the escape of eight others, is to extend its service to include transporting remand prisoners at Hull prison.

The home secretary, Kenneth Clarke, yesterday defended the company's running of the service as senior executives met Derek Lewis, director-general of the prison service.

Mr Lewis said there had been considerable improvement recently. There had been no escapes for two weeks and the proportion of prisoners who arrived late at court had dropped from 10 per cent to 5 per cent.

A statement after the meeting said that the case of Ernest Hogg had not been discussed. Mr Hogg, 38, from Dundee, died after being found unconscious in a Group 4 vehicle which was transporting him from Rotherham Magistrates' Court, where he had appeared on a drug charge.

Five other prisoners were in the vehicle taking them to Wolds Remand Centre at Hessle, Humberside. Mr Hogg did not leave the van at the Wolds with the others and was found to have collapsed when it arrived at Hull Crown Court to collect more prisoners.

Jim Harrower, managing director of Group 4, admitted that the escapes and Mr Hogg's death had been difficulties that the company could have done without. "Yes, it's been embarrassing. It has not always been the fault of Group 4. We are a company that is based on reputation. We will bring that reputation back through our performance."

He said that the company had been wrong to take over all escort duties in Humberside and the east Midlands on one day.

Earlier, Mr Clarke said that Group 4 was providing a perfectly reasonable service which in some parts of the country was better in most respects than that provided previously by police and prison officers, with fewer escapes.



Lewis: Group 4 has considerably improved

☐ Frightened prisoners are said to be not returning from home leave because other inmates want them to smuggle in drugs.

Ruth Janson-Smith, chairman of the board of visitors for Wellingborough prison in Northamptonshire, said: "We are concerned that prisoners going on home leave are being threatened to bring back drugs and that some of them are seeking protection in the jail."

Give up? Give over, says defiant Major

Continued from page 1

job centre. Not yet. But it will be." There would be "no more boom and no more bust".

Looking to the next parliamentary session, Major promised that measures to tackle crime wave would be at the heart of the government's programme. The abolition of the discredited unit fines system was just an instalment; a huge battle lay ahead over law and order.

"There are too many young criminals out there offending, and reoffending, and laughing while they do it. So we are giving the police and the courts the powers they need to deal with them. I don't want policemen fighting paper on their desks. I want them fighting crime on the streets."

Other key elements of his agenda would be the building up of a stronger manufacturing base, making public services truly serve the people and raising educational standards.

Mr Major defended his pragmatic approach to Europe with what appeared to be a sideswipe at Lady Thatcher. The "John Bull in a china shop" style, while superficially attractive, was not in the country's longterm interests. "Some of you may feel that we have heard rather a lot about principled opposition to Europe. I want to hear more in the future about principled support for Europe. So let us put the arguments behind us. Better to battle together. Better for Britain. Better for our party. Better for our future."

☐ Sir Michael Hirst is to become chairman of the Scottish Conservative party in succession to Lord Sanderson.

Arturo Benedetti Michelangeli

withdraws from May concerts

Arturo Benedetti Michelangeli regrets to announce to have been obliged to withdraw from his concerts with the L.S.O. on May 20 and 23 and from his recitals on May 27 and 30 due to unacceptable organisational confusion.

All concerts were to have taken place at the Barbican Centre.

نقلاً من الأصل

Soldier branded a bully wins damages from Cook Report

BY RAY CLANCY

A SOLDIER branded a violent bully by the television programme *The Cook Report* was yesterday awarded substantial damages in the High Court after the programme makers accepted that the allegations were untrue.

Roger Cook, the investigative reporter, and Central Independent Television, which broadcast the programme entitled "Bullied to Death" last May, had denied libel. But they agreed a settlement believed to be £105,000 after eight days of evidence. They also agreed to pay costs, which were unofficially estimated at £600,000.

The court was told that the reputation of Corporal Brian Cooper was "murdered" after the programme claimed that he battered and kicked a new recruit, Colin Espie, during a basic training session at Glencorse barracks, near Edinburgh, in February 1992.

Mr Espie claimed he suffered a broken nose, black eye and broken tooth. But Ronald Thwaites QC, for Cpl Cooper, said that if Mr Cook and his team and carried out proper research they would have discovered that Mr Espie had a conviction for wasting police time by making a false allegation that he was kidnapped, and had lied to get into the army.

Mr Thwaites was highly critical of the presenter. "There was not a word or whisper of truth in these allegations, and if Roger Cook was as interested in the truth as he professes to be he would easily have discovered the true facts for himself."

A statement on behalf of Mr Cook and Central, read in court before Mr Justice Owen, said it was agreed that "Cpl Cooper has an unblemished record and has never engaged in any bullying or other unprofessional conduct. The Special Investigation Branch of the Royal Military Police twice carried out prompt and thorough investigations into the allegations of bullying and cleared Cpl Cooper on both occasions."

The 26-year-old soldier from Penicuik, Lothian, was not allowed to comment publicly because he is still serving with the Black Watch regiment. He left the court with his wife Yvonne.

His solicitor, John Mackenzie, said it was not just Cpl Cooper's reputation that had been put at stake by the programme but "by implication the reputation of Glencorse and of all the Scottish infantry regiments".

Desmond Browne QC, for Mr Cook and Central Independent Television, said the allegations had been included in the programme in good faith, in the belief that they were well founded, but following the evidence given in court the defendants acknowledged that they were untrue.

He said: "They accept that the witnesses called over the past few days on behalf of Cpl Cooper were correct to deny that any assaults occurred."

Afterwards Mr Cook, who has been working on a new series of *The Cook Report*, said bullying was a serious problem in the army and he promised to continue with his campaigning work.

Mr Cook, who was described during the hearing as a self-appointed watchdog examining injustices on behalf of the public, added: "In a way this is a hazard of the job, but I have a sense of disappointment and regret. In terms of one's professional record, this is the only settlement of any size I've had in a quarter of a century of investigative reporting."

Cpl Cooper, who joined the army in 1983 and twice served in Northern Ireland, felt that he had become notorious after the programme was broadcast. The court was told that he was no longer an anonymous corporal getting on with his job of training recruits and in the eyes of those who saw the programme he had become a violent bully.

None of the four recruits who claimed in the programme that they were bullied had unblemished records, the court was told. As well as having a criminal record, Mr Espie had gone absent without leave.

Mr Thwaites said that the witnesses on the programme were failures. "They were young men who tried and failed. They had been in the army for a matter of weeks and dropped out."

Station stabber gets life

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A MAN who stabbed a male nurse to death in a railway station lavatory was yesterday jailed for life.

Thomas Stewart, 42, was found guilty at Reading Crown Court of murdering Richard Lyddon, 36, a trainee nurse. He had denied the charge.

Mr Justice Wright told Stewart: "No one but yourself will ever know with certainty what lay behind this savage attack. What is clear is that when you are under the influence of alcohol you are capable, for whatever reason, of quite terrible violence."

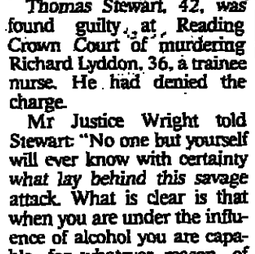
Mr Lyddon was at Reading railway station, on his way home from a job interview and about to catch his connecting train home to Taunton, when he went to the lavatory, where he was stabbed ten times. The jury was told that Stewart had burst into the lavatory and pinned his victim to the seat while attacking him with a 9in knife. When a ticket collector went in to see what the noise was, Stewart looked up, said nothing, and stabbed his victim at least twice more.

Mr Lyddon staggered to the platform and collapsed. He died soon after.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

The truth about Anita Hill

"In the two years since Anita Hill shocked America by claiming to have been harassed sexually by her boss, she has been canonised as a hero of our times. Clarence Thomas, the target of



her charges, has been demonised. But does Hill deserve her reputation? And does Thomas, now a supreme court judge, deserve to spend decades on the bench in blighted silence, unable to fight for his good name . . ?"

Exclusive extract from the new book that everyone in America is talking about – in The Sunday Times tomorrow

Nurse convicted of third child murder

BY LIN JENKINS

BEVERLY Allitt was convicted of being a serial killer yesterday when a jury returned guilty verdicts on a third charge of murdering a baby on a hospital ward and another of attempted murder.

The jury of seven men and five women were sent to a hotel for a fourth night and will today continue their deliberations on a fourth charge of murder and 12 other charges, including six of attempted murder.

Allitt, 24, a nurse of Corby Glen, Lincolnshire, was not at Nottingham Crown Court to hear the verdicts. She remains in Rampton Hospital where she is being treated for anorexia nervosa and was informed of the verdicts by telephone.

She was convicted yesterday of murdering eight-week-old Liam Taylor on the ward at Grantham and Kesteven District Hospital in February 1991. She was convicted of the attempted murder of Bradley Gibson, 5, and of causing grevious bodily harm with intent to seven-week-old Patrick Elstone. She was cleared of an alternative charge of attempted murder on Patrick.

The court had been told that Liam was on the children's ward with a serious chest infection when Allitt was allocated to look after him. John Goldring QC, for the prosecution, said the baby, to the surprise of medical staff, collapsed with a heart attack.

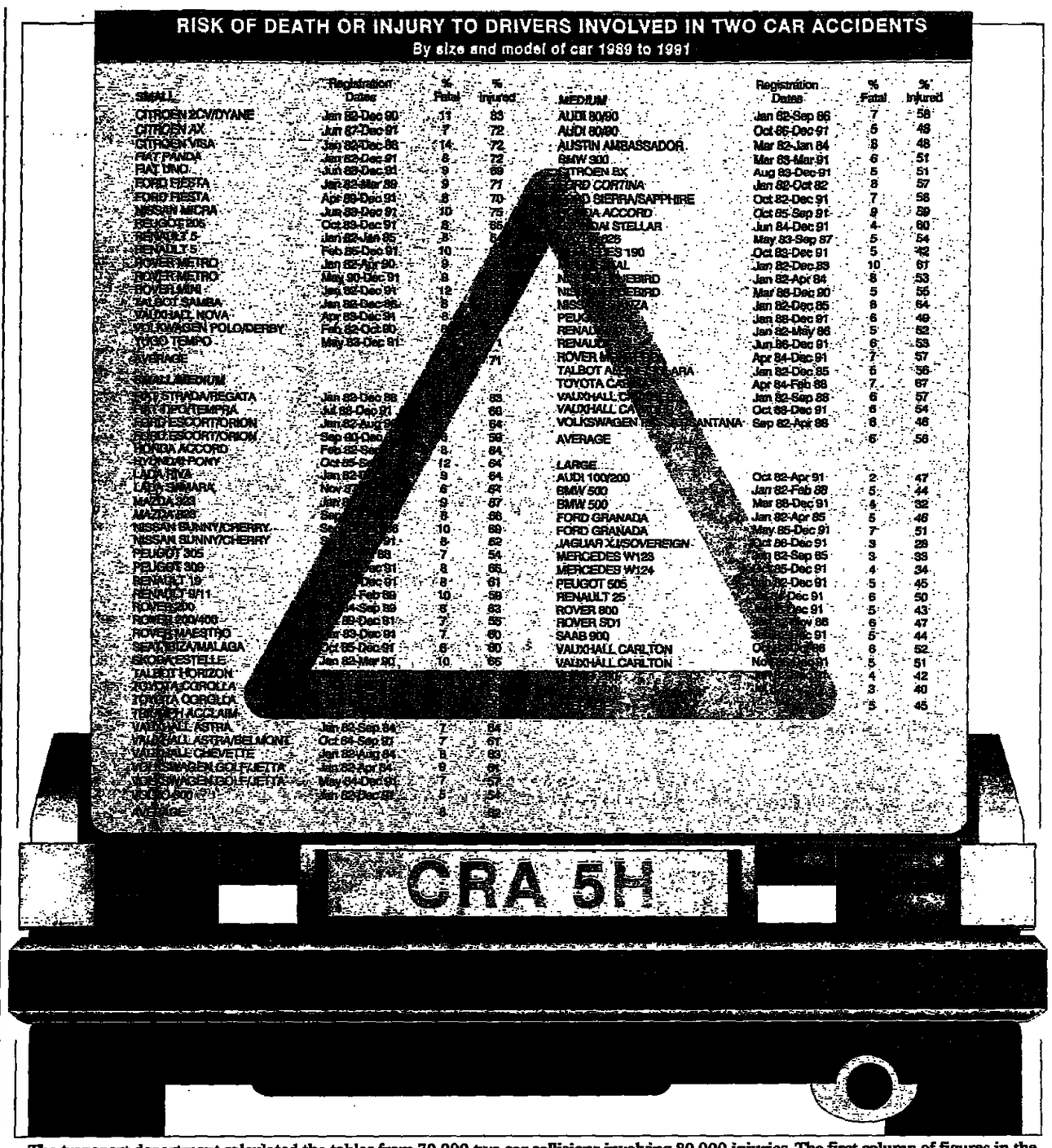
He has told the court that one of the most distinguished pathologists in the world found that part of the muscle around Liam's heart had died. "That itself is extremely unusual in a child. What makes it strikingly unusual was that there was no sign of any heart disease. Something was done to him. We do not know what it was."

Allitt was also convicted yesterday of attempting to murder Bradley Gibson who suffered a heart attack while she was alone with him checking his drip. The prosecution said that Allitt probably placed her hand over the nose and mouth of seven-week-old Patrick Elstone when he was on the ward.

On Thursday, Allitt was convicted of the murders of Becky Phillips, nine weeks, and Claire Peck, 15 months. She was also convicted of causing grevious bodily harm with intent to Kayley Desmond, 15 months, Henry Chan, 2, and Christopher King, five weeks.



Buoyant: parents of two of Allitt's murder victims



The transport department calculated the tables from 70,000 two-car collisions involving 80,000 injuries. The first column of figures in the tables is the percentage of fatal or serious accidents and the second column the percentage of all injuries

Bigger is safer for cars involved in crashes

BY KEVIN EASON
MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

SIZE of car could be the difference between death or survival in a crash. Statistics in the transport department's new injury risk league tables show that the bigger the car, the better the chances of walking away from an accident.

Of 18 models in the "mini" class, all failed to beat the overall average for injury risk calculated for 90 models checked by the department's researchers. All cars in the executive and luxury class were well above average, with the Jaguar XJ series of cars more than 50 per cent better.

While the average percentage of drivers injured in a two-car crash is only 45 per cent for executive-sized cars, the figure is 71 per cent for the mini class.

Drivers will not have to plough through the 29 pages of figures in the transport department's booklet, *Cars: make and model: injury accident and casualty rates*, published yesterday, to discover which cars are safest. They can pick up a simplified leaflet which is being distributed through the Halfords chain.

They will find that although the Citroen 2CV has charmed about 7.5 million owners around the world, its cute looks do little to help protect the driver in a crash. The car's injury rating is the highest, at 83 per cent, although there was a greater percentage of deaths among Citroen Visa owners in the two years up to 1991 when the figures were compiled.

Consumer groups and motoring organisations generally welcomed the new leaflet while warning that some of the information could be wrongly interpreted. The Consumers' Association said it was concerned that the information was difficult for consumers to use and potentially misleading.

The RAC warned that the information "is only a small part of the picture" and the AA said that however well cars perform, the driver is at fault for most accidents.

Researchers backed up those comments with findings that show that drivers of high performance cars have the worst rate of injuries, particularly owners of old "hot hatches", the small but fast cars treated as pariahs by motor insurance companies.

There were 216 injury accidents per 10,000 small, high performance cars registered before January 1, 1989, compared with 123 for the same size of standard hatchback car.

The most severe accidents happen on 60mph roads, where the risk of injury or death is three times higher than on urban 30mph roads and 30 per cent higher than on motorways.

The report says women are less likely to be killed in a road accident, probably because they tend to drive more slowly, but they are 50 per cent more likely to be injured. The researchers are not sure why this should be. One theory has emerged that women could be hurt more often because they sit too close to the steering wheel.

Safety league, page 1

'Silent twin' tells of her alter ego's death

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

THE surviving member of one of the world's strangest relationships spoke in public for the first time yesterday about the sister who held her a mental prisoner all her life.

June Gibbons, 29, was giving evidence at an inquest into the death of her twin, Jennifer, who died within hours of their release from Broadmoor top security mental hospital. The women were known as the Silent Twins because of their pact — at the age of three — to speak to no-one but each other. They refused to talk to members of their family and were never heard to speak to a teacher or another pupil. They were sent to Broadmoor in 1982, after setting fire to empty buildings. At Swansea Crown Court their pleas were accepted as guilty pleas.

The inquest heard that Jennifer died of acute myocarditis — inflammation and degeneration of the heart — on March 9, hours after being driven from Broadmoor to a rehabilitation centre in Bridgend, Wales. The jury returned a verdict of natural causes.

In a barely audible voice, June told the inquest that her sister had been unwell the day before and during the journey. "Her speech was slurring. She was tired and said she was dying. Then she slept with her head on my lap but with her eyes open."

Before leaving Broadmoor the twins had become obsessed with death. Marjorie Wallace, the founder of the mental health charity Sane, who befriended the twins in Broadmoor, said they would shout to each other about who would die first. "They were moving steadily towards the end game."

According to Ms Wallace, June believes that she and her sister had infected each other with irrational thoughts and fears. Last month, she told Ms Wallace: "At long last I am all June, not a part of Jennifer. We were war weary; it had been a long battle. We were both a burden to each other."

Rock's 'Holy Grail' sells for £99,000

BY JOE JOSEPH

AN American music executive paid £99,000 at a London auction yesterday for the acoustic guitar that helped Elvis Presley to become famous. Presley played the 1942 Martin D-18 guitar in 1954, on his recordings of *That's All Right* and *Blue Moon of Kentucky*. The guitar was auctioned by Christie's on behalf of a British collector.

The guitar's new owner, Michael Malone, 48, who runs a business in Seattle producing background music for airlines and shops, said: "It is going back to the States, and I do think that is important. Elvis is the King. As one dealer said: 'This is the Holy Grail of rock and roll.' "

The bidding for the guitar started at £14,000, and the price increased rapidly in the crowded saleroom, until it reached £90,000. Ten per cent buyer's commission lifted the final bill to £99,000. Mr Malone is a collector of guitars that have been owned by rock stars who are now dead. The Martin will become part of a collection which includes guitars that belonged to John Lennon and Bill Haley.

Among other pop memorabilia in the sale were a pair of John Lennon's black leather Chelsea boots from the early 1960s, which were bought for £3,080 by the Hard Rock Cafe in London. A black bustier with gold tassles, once owned by Madonna, sold for £8,580. Madonna's black beret from her "Marlene Dietrich" days fetched £2,420.

Soul fans who have been having sleepless nights waiting to get their hands on a set of clothes worn by James Brown also had their day. One of the singer's rare stage outfits — a scarlet velvet robe with a matching crown, suitable for both sexes — was knocked down for £6,600, well below the pre-sale estimate of between £8,000 and £12,000.

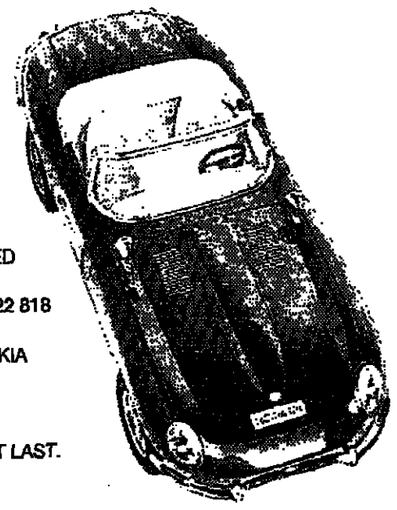
Cheaper items for the children's fancy dress cupboard included Keith Richards' beige felt fedora with matching silk hatband, which sold for £1,100.

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*OFFICIAL FUEL CONSUMPTION CARINA E XI 1.6 (MAN.) 4 DOOR. MPG (LIT/100KM) URBAN CYCLE 35.3 (8.0) CONSTANT 56 MPH 57.6 (4.9) CONSTANT 75 MPH 42.3 (6.7). CARINA E XLD 2.0 (MAN) 4 DOOR: MPG (LIT/100KM) URBAN CYCLE 40.4 (7.0) CONSTANT 56 MPH 64.2 (4.4) CONSTANT 75 MPH 47.1 (6.0).

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Buyers, shops and makers welcome enquiry into compact transformer of leisure and learning

Monopolies commission to investigate CD prices

BY IAN MURRAY

THE cost of compact discs in Britain is to be investigated by the monopolies commission after a report this week by the Commons heritage committee demanding a £2 reduction in their recommended retail price.

The Consumers' Association said it hoped the enquiry would clear the way for cheaper imports. Retailers looked forward to lower prices leading to higher sales. Happiest of all, however, were the big record companies, who said the enquiry by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission (MMC) would give them a chance to clear their name of profiteering.

The enquiry was ordered by the Office of Fair Trading (OFT), which has until the end of March to report to Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade.

Explaining his decision to order the investigation, Sir Bryan Carsberg, director-general of fair trading, said that compact disc prices in Britain remained relatively high compared with the cost of cassettes and records and with prices in the United States. "I have not been satisfied by the arguments that have been put forward to explain this phenomenon," he said.

"The evidence and the [select committee] report have confirmned my view that the market for recorded music merits examination by the MMC ... I hope they will consider in particular whether copyright, which is a reward for innovation and creativity, is being used in such a way as to restrict, distort or prevent competition."

Stephen Locke, of the Consumers' Association, said compact discs cost 50 per cent more in Britain than in America. "We have rehearsed all the arguments put forward for justifying this and found them wanting," he said. "We want to see a change in copyright laws which will enable retailers to import discs direct from the United States and sell them here."

Dr Kevin Hawkins, of W. H. Smith, Britain's biggest music retailer, said: "We have got to find a way of getting prices down enough to change the perception among 80 per cent of customers that CDs are expensive. We only have 30p profit left after the price cuts we make."

Valerie Williams, of Woolworth's, the largest seller of chart discs, said: "We guarantee that the price of our CDs is the cheapest on the high street, but we can't go any lower unless the industry cuts its prices too."

Five big record companies, PolyGram, EMI, Warner, Sony and BMG, make more than 60 per cent of recordings sold in Britain. All say they are delighted to be able to put their case to the OFT following what Maurice Oberstein, vice-president of PolyGram, described as "the tommy-rot, lies and deceit" of the Commons report.

Clive Fisher, of PolyGram, said: "At last we have a chance to get a fair hearing, which is something we feel we never had before the Commons committee." At EMI, Frances Elliott, director of commerce, said: "We welcome the opportunity to clarify this complex issue by an expert and impartial body."

Martin Mills, who runs Beggars Banquet, one of the small independent companies that together sell 30 per cent of discs in Britain, described the Commons report as "McCarthyism revived". Welcoming the OFT enquiry, he said: "These MPs were outrageous. They made up their mind what they were going to say before they took any evidence. The OFT enquiry will be a huge waste of time and money, but at least it should clear the air."

Richard Morrison, page 14

ROBIN MAYES



Matter of money: a Commons committee says customers pay £2 too much. Record companies deny the charge

Silver disc offers more revolutions

BY NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE time is approaching when someone wanting to watch a Hollywood blockbuster or hear the latest recording of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony will be able to pop out to the shops, order it, and five minutes later take it home on a compact disc.

IBM, the computer giant, and Blockbuster Entertainment, which runs a worldwide chain or music and video stores, believe the technology is at hand to store music and films in central computers and beam them out over digital telephone lines for instant recording on CD.

CDs are already used with computers to create interactive entertainment, education and information systems: learn French while looking at images of Paris, graphics of the Seine or listening to Edith Piaf sing.

Nick Thomas, a spokesman for Philips Consumer Electronics in Croydon, said the CD would be at the heart of even more bewildering interactive systems that link into data bases and television stations. He said it was likely that such systems would allow someone to watch a television programme such as *The Clothes Show* and dress an image of themselves with the clothes seen on the show's model.

Sega have a system in which children can interact during a video game and Kodak offer a service whereby holiday photographs can be put on CD.

The attraction of CDs is that they offer a more flexible, user friendly format for storing larger amounts of data, sound and moving images than computer discs. They are almost indestructible and users can switch almost instantaneously to tracks or sections of film. The next big push is to make recordable CD machines affordable for the home. At the moment they cost about £3,000.

Whether CDs persist at the centre of the home entertainment revolution depends on royalty agreements and the battle between different CD-based formats, all of which are incompatible.

Bubble bursts for windscreen cleaners

BY KATE ALDERSON

WINDSCREEN cleaners who swoop on cars seeking money could face prosecution following a court case yesterday in which a man was ordered to pay £100.

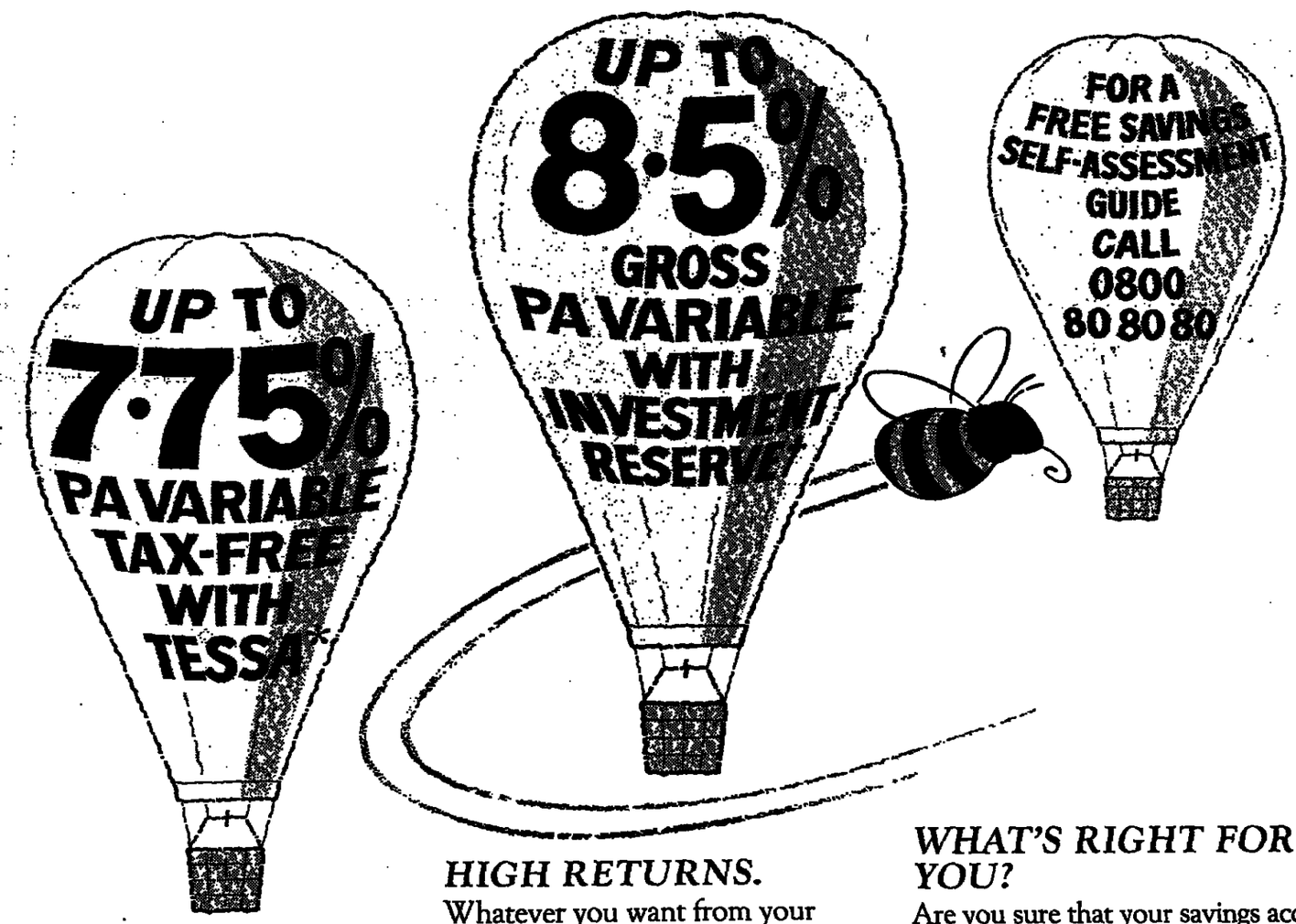
Steven MacMillan, 21, from Bounds Green, north London, was convicted of street trading without a licence and fined £30 with costs of £70. The case was brought by Westminster council.

Marylebone magistrates were told that MacMillan, who is unemployed, was seen in February cleaning a windscreen and being given money by the driver. He told police: "I do not ask for money."

The Metropolitan police said yesterday that windscreen washers had become a menace. "Many of them are young children, a lot from travelling families. We get complaints about adults being aggressive or rude when drivers refuse to give them money.

"If we arrest them the case is usually dropped because we rarely get the evidence from the council as to whether they have a street trading licence."

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Budapest centre's intensive therapy for cerebral palsy victims 'fails to fulfil high expectations'

Psychologists attack Peto treatment for children

By Nigel Hawkes
Science Editor

■ Money spent on "conductive education" for brain damage may have been better spent on traditional methods, say researchers

A TECHNIQUE developed by the Peto Institute in Hungary and hailed as a major breakthrough in the treatment of children with cerebral palsy is no better than traditional methods, and may be worse, according to a report published yesterday.

"Conductive education", pioneered at the Budapest institute, emerges poorly from a study carried out for the education department by a team of psychologists at Birmingham University. The method, as practised by Peto-trained staff in Britain, "failed to fulfil the high expectations which have come to be associated with this system".

Traditional British methods of special education, used as a comparison, produced better results, while the data did not appear to justify "the widespread introduction of the system into the UK".

Conductive education is an attempt to teach the children to control their movements through as much as six hours a day of intensive therapy, training the limbs through a series of movements.

The findings will come as an embarrassment to the government, which has committed £5 million to the Peto Institute for an extension where British teachers will be trained and British children treated. So far, £1.75 million has been paid.

Yesterday, the education department said that the government remained committed to conductive education in this country. A spokeswoman said no immediate action was planned in the light of the researchers' findings. "It will add to the debate. That was the object of the exercise," she said.

The Peto Institute and the Spastics Society reacted sharply to the findings. Dr Maria Hari, institute director, who was awarded an honorary OBE by the Queen two years ago, said that at least £400,000 had been squandered on a report based on insufficient research and poor interpretation of results. The Spastics Society condemned the study as badly flawed and urged parents and professionals not to be alarmed by the findings.

The study was carried out by Professor Raymond Cochrane, head of the department of psychology at Birmingham, and two colleagues, Phillip Bairstow and Jane Hur. They compared the progress of matched groups of children at the Birmingham Institute for Conductive Education and in special schools in Manchester.

To make the comparison, the team outlined a battery of tests of cognition, academic achievement, communication, motor functioning, social behaviour, independence in daily life, state of the hips and hamstring muscles and neurological status. Both groups made progress on a wide range of these measures, but the Manchester group did better.

Robert Hancock, director of operations at the Spastics Society, yesterday attacked the report as "nonsense, a waste of time and a considerable waste of money". He said that to compare the Birmingham centre, which had only recently been established, with the mainstream schools was a bit of a joke.

The report itself concludes: "Parents of children with cerebral palsy should regard with caution the promises made on behalf of conductive education and they should not feel they are failing if they do not secure conductive education for their child."

JUSTIN SLEE



Making progress: Christopher Bodell has been to Hungary three times for treatment his mother describes as "great"

Parents insist the technique works

By Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor

CHRISTOPHER Bodell, who is nearly eight, is one of those for whom the Peto Institute treatment seems to have worked.

Christopher, of Burscough, Lancashire, was born with cerebral palsy, and had little chance of living a normal life. With the help of friends, Tony and Kim Bodell, his parents, raised £18,000 to send Christopher to Hungary for treatment three times, each time for a period of four months.

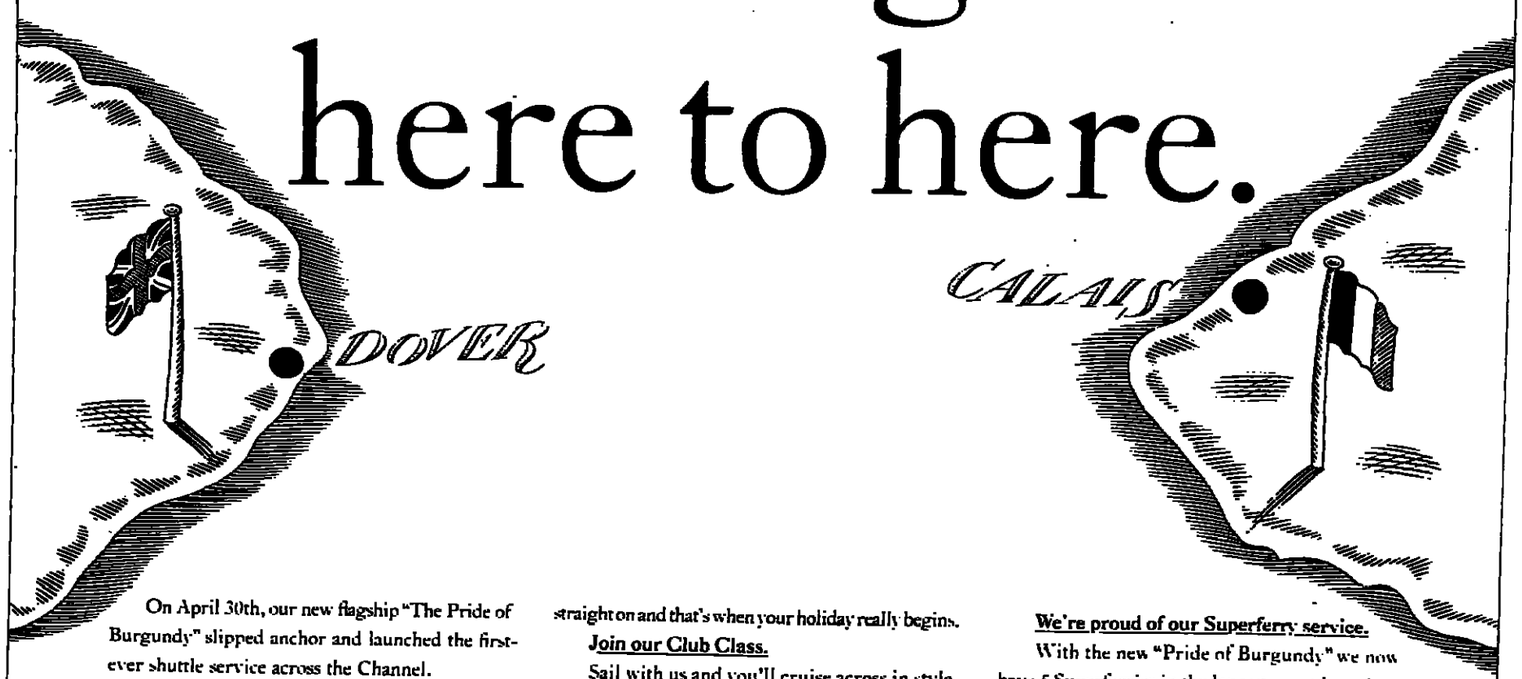
Mrs Bodell said: "In this country, doctors didn't hold out much hope. The treatment in Hungary was great. His physiotherapist in this country does very similar things, but that's only for half an hour a week. In Hungary it was much more intensive."

Christopher is now in full-time education at Burscough County Primary School. He can walk with the help of tripod sticks and can feed himself, though he still needs help to dress.

The Porteous family, from Hackney in London, also feel the effort of raising money for the trip was worthwhile. Their son, Robert, now seven, has been to Hungary twice. Lennox Porteous, his father, said: "It's helped him a great deal. He goes for a month, and you can see the difference when he gets back. The trouble is, there's nothing here to keep up the improvement."

Robert can communicate by signs, but cannot feed or dress himself. Mr Porteous says he is a happy child and that the treatment has made a great difference.

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Credo

God chooses to share our choices

Dr Edward Norman

Men and women have a permanent disposition to make God in their own image: a God who derives from their own self-evaluation. In earlier centuries they were impressed by the vileness of humanity, the ravages of our sin and the horrific extent, as it seemed to them, to which even our highest attempts at altruism were flawed by our natures. The God of traditional society was a God of judgment and of wrath. It was his awesome power which most seemed to characterise his dealings with mankind.

Today, we are filled with a sense of human worth. Our self-understanding is expressed in the contemporary vocabulary of human rights, and we are impressed by the achievements of humanity. Our God, accordingly, has to be a nondiscriminatory being whose demands upon us do not require precise belief but a demonstration, by us, of a caring attitude to our contemporaries.

The result, of course, is that we cannot believe in the existence of a God whose sense of human worth may appear to be less than our own; whose creation, indeed, encompasses the most fearful evils. The fault is ours: we expect exemption from the laws of creation; we inveigh against life itself when we envisage a divinity whose highest intentions seem not to fulfil the most exacting expectations of human welfare. As a consequence, men and women tend to assess the existence of God in relation to a creation imperfectly understood.

The biblical accounts describe the assemblage of the world and then, secondarily, the placing of mankind in it. We are part of the creation and not released from its laws. It is certain that all we can know or sense about the existence of the creator comes from our experience of the world.

Human self-esteem and a desire to locate ourselves gave primitive peoples an intimation that the world of our senses somehow disclosed an unseen world of celestial splendour, now hidden from immediate sight, but whose evidences seemed implicit in what we could discern.

This "natural religion" was not without corruptions. For the universal creator to be known, he had necessarily to become a part of the creation: to become a man, to share our senses and our images about the nature of the divine and to show that God himself was concerned with the work of his hands.

The alternative means of revelation, a cosmic firework display in which God appeared, as it were, in the skies and dictated his will, was neither consonant with the mechanics of the creation which he himself had determined nor compatible with human choice.

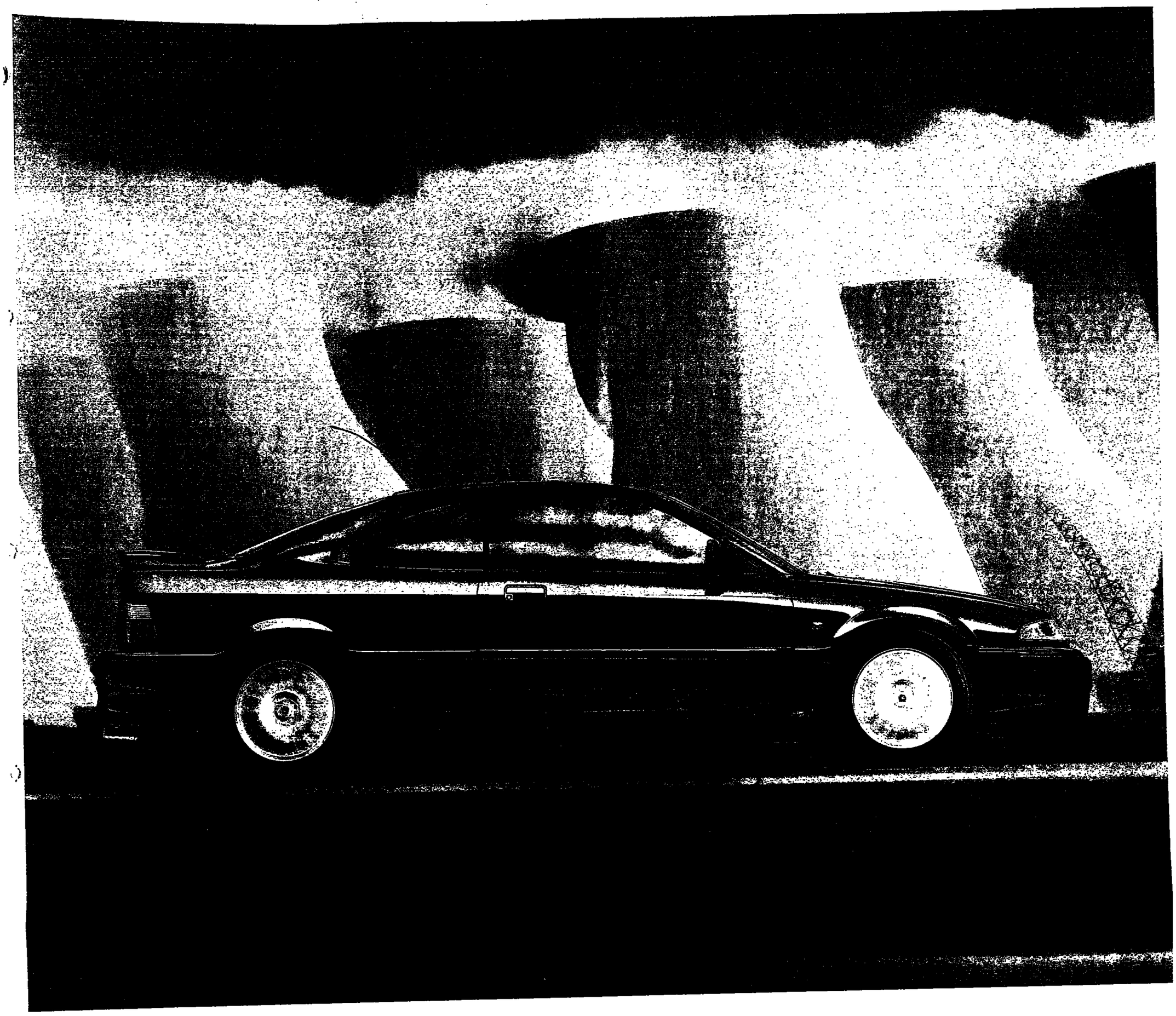
A world without choice, however, would perhaps lack some pain but it would also completely lack purpose. So God became a man. He became part of the developing folk experience of a given people, in a given culture, and then he offered his life for all mankind. To know of his existence is to stand in the tradition of all those in whom he had been present, who have tried to follow him.

Christian belief does not depend upon individual emotional sensation, that is far too relative and unstable. It depends upon adherence to a continuing body of believers who test their consciousness of the divine presence until the end of time.

Dr Edward Norman is chaplain of Christ Church College, Canterbury.

☐ Next week Dr Peter Selby of Durham University defends the Church of England decision to ordain women priests.

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Why Tory toffs and tabloids have ganged up on Major

Bernard Ingham joins the fray after William Rees-Mogg's attack on the prime minister in The Times last Monday

The viciously patronising attacks on John Major over the past week are nothing new. I have been here before. Jonathan Miller, the polymath, and Baroness Warnock, among others, hosed down Margaret Thatcher with gallons of social snobbery, and Paul Johnson, the writer, no doubt winces over the day he dismissed her for something or other by quoting Browning's "Never glad confident morning again!" She survived.

As a mere grammar school boy, Mr Major is more vulnerable to the contempt of the empty-headed elite than was Mrs Thatcher, an Oxford-educated provincial. But not much more. Mrs Thatcher being a woman.

We need waste no more time on the eggheads. Lord Rees-Mogg, in his attack on Mr Major in *The Times* this week, is only behaving true to type. They put their intellectual boots in only after the tabloids have softened up the victims for the kill.

With varying intensity, the Tory tabloids have been beating up Mr Major for a good nine months now. Nothing has gone right for him since the Minister of Fun, David Mellor, had too much of it with an actress.

The press has not been short of material. Falling out of the exchange-rate mechanism; the fiasco over the pit closures; Norman Lamont's embarrassment over the taxpayer's contribution to his bill for evicting his tenant, Miss Whiplash, and his imprudence in being over his credit card limit — all these inevitably charged the leader writers' pens with vitriol.

All this would have made the past year bad enough without a divided party mired in Maastricht, unemployment rising to nearly three million, the Chancellor's green shoots taking an eternity to show (assuming that they have), and a certain propensity on the government's part for tactical retreat.

Latterly, all this has been compounded by some extraordinarily stupid or arrogant ministerial statements. For example, Douglas Hurd's suggestion that Britain would not stand by Denmark if its second referendum failed to back ratification of the Maastricht treaty, or the Chancellor's claim after our removal from the ERM that the economic recovery was down to the government. And, not least, his *"Je ne regrette rien"* in Newbury.

I knew some awful years with Mrs Thatcher. Take 1981, which saw the battle for Thatcherism. Or 1986 when the Westland affair was followed by the loss of the Sunday trading bill, the bombing of Libya and a special Commonwealth conference on sanctions against South Africa. I do not remember much joy either in the terminal years after Edwina had curried the nation's eggs with salmonella. The media's — and not just the tabloids' — bloodlust during the Westland affair was not to be missed, unless their rabid fangs were snapping at you.

So what's new? More to the point, what, if anything more than the intensity of his problems, a party divided by Europe and gaffes, has sunk Mr Major's popularity to a new low in the first year after winning an election? Supporting evidence for the claims by Neil Kinnock and Lord McAlpine that the Conservative tabloids won the election for Mr Major is sparse. But what if they did? There is even less evidence for the argument that they are now being beastly to the prime minister to redress the balance. We should not lightly accuse newspapers of equity or conscience. It may damage their circulation.

I am slightly more impressed with the argument that the scramble to pick up dissident readers of the *Daily Mirror* has made Major-bashing more commercial. Mr Major rather set himself up by standing by Mr Mellor to deny newspapers the satisfaction of dictating who should be in his cabinet.

And I do not think the government's clouded intentions over the Calcutt review of press self-regulation, Clive Soley's attempts to bring in a statutory right of reply, and technological intrusions into privacy have made the Conservatives smell any sweeter in editors' nostrils. It never pays to threaten the media. They always have the last word.

However, it does not pay to get too pally with the media either. Mrs Thatcher may have been liberal with media honours but the brittle salons of journalism were not her natural habitat. She had to be dragged into them to do her duty.

Mr Major earned early rave reviews for his relaxed availability. That always ends in tears when the going gets rough. And the going is rough. The press has not invented that.

Leading article and Letters, page 15

Smith risks head-on clash with unions over block votes

By Philip Bassett
Industrial Editor

■ The strength of opposition to the Labour leader's plans for one member, one vote promises fireworks at the party conference

JOHN Smith, the Labour leader, yesterday took on the trade union leaders who are opposing his planned democratic reforms of the party by insisting that he would go ahead with the changes despite the unions.

Mr Smith's high-risk gamble that the unions will eventually swing into line behind him, rather than be seen to impose a damaging defeat on him, still looks unlikely to head off an embarrassing rejection of his proposed changes to Labour's internal constitution at the party's autumn conference.

The scale of the union difficulties facing Mr Smith was demonstrated when his unequivocal call for trade union support for his planned reforms was immediately rejected by Ken Cameron, the influential left-winger and leader of the Fire Brigades Union, at whose annual conference in Bridlington, Humberside, Mr Smith delivered his message.

Mr Smith made the first visit in 20 years by a Labour leader to the policy-making conference of the FBU, a traditionally left-led union which has frequently opposed the Labour leadership.

It was the first round in his union conference campaign to win support for the principle of one member, one vote (Omov) in the selection of his successor, local parliamentary candidates and MPs.

He will follow it with separate appeals to the conferences of other left-wing unions, including the TGWU transport workers and MSF general technical union, although the leaders of both unions are likely to give him an equally blunt rejection.

His call came after leaders of most of Labour's big unions met this week to declare their opposition to Omov. Mr Smith refused to answer questions about the unions' reaction to his proposals as he hurriedly left the FBU conference hall in Bridlington with-



Cameron: rejected call for support

in minutes of finishing his speech.

The union delegates applauded his attacks on the government and his support for their pay formula — about which they are likely to ballot on a strike — but they listened in silence to his Omov proposal.

Mr Smith said: "The principle of one member, one vote extends the right to participate in our key decisions to the most important people in our party, the ordinary members upon whose support and commitment we vitally depend.

"They believe it should be the guiding principle of our party democracy, and I think they are right."

Despite the clear signs of union opposition to Omov, Mr Smith confirmed that he intended to ask the party conference at Brighton in the autumn to introduce Omov.

He did draw applause, though, when he praised the "proud and deep links" between Labour and the unions, though FBU and other union leaders were puzzled as to how his support for Omov sat easily with this, and with saying to the FBU that Labour and the unions had "common purposes, and we have common ideals and we will remain together to achieve them".

Mr Cameron called for talks between the unions and Labour on the one member, one vote proposal. He said: "He runs the risk of being defeated at the conference unless there is an accomodation between now and October."

But Gavin Laird, general secretary of the pro-Omov AEEU engineering union, said that the union block vote had to go if people were to stop believing the unions were "leading the Labour party by the nose".

John Prescott, Labour's transport spokesman, said there was a bridge between Mr Smith's support for Omov and union opposition to it, and backed the idea of registered union supporters, although most unions believe this proposal to be unworkable.

CHRIS HARRIS



Judy at the Scottish Tory conference yesterday: "Judges do not understand"

Victim tells of sex ordeal

By Gillian Bowditch, Scotland Correspondent

DELEGATES at the Scottish Conservative Party conference sat in shocked silence yesterday as a young party activist gave a harrowing and highly personal account of a brutal sexual assault against her in her home.

The woman, aged 37, who used only her first name, Judy, described how she had been battered with a poker, throttled and almost killed by a man masquerading as a priest. She braved the glare of the television cameras to make an impassioned plea for changes to the law and more compassion for the victims of violent crime.

The hall was hushed as the woman, who comes from Edinburgh and has four children aged between seven and twelve, gave the details of the attack: "The more I resisted, the more violent he became. He attacked me with a poker, beating me savagely about the head, the poker bent into a right angle. I knew I had no option but to yield to his sexual desires. And adrenalin and the survival instinct take over. Had I continued to resist, he would have killed me."

She said she had been selected as the victim for the crime, committed almost a year ago, because of her involvement with the Conservatives. The man arranged to visit her to discuss donating to party funds.

She identified her attacker from police photographs as John Cronin, 20, a man with convictions for fraud and indecent exposure, who had been released on bail seven days earlier. Cronin was sentenced to life imprisonment, which was reduced to six years, after the Court of Appeal ruled he was not a danger to the public.

Calling for at least one female judge on the appeal court bench, Judy said: "Judges do not understand the nature of this type of crime."

Fighting back, page 1

MacGregor rides rail sell-off criticism

By Gillian Bowditch
Scotland Correspondent

THE transport secretary yesterday promised to forge ahead with privatisation of the railways, but there was strong criticism at the Scottish Conservative party conference for the commitment to put the Scottish network at the head of the for-sale list.

John MacGregor defended the government's record on privatisation, pointing to British Airways, BAA and National Freight Consortium as successful examples. He said: "Those with lack of vision said that these industries could not be privatised, could not operate without state control, could not prosper. But they could, and they did. We were right."

Some delegates in Edinburgh voiced concern about the effect of privatisation on the future of rural lines, job security and safety.

John Gall, a Conservative trade unionist and a train driver for 31 years, said: "The privatisation plans are a recipe for disaster, make no mistake about it. We do not require an Opposition; we are doing their job for them." Mr Gall described as a fundamental flaw the proposal to separate the management of the network from the rolling stock.

Nanette Milne, a vice-chairman of the Scottish Tory party, called for Mr MacGregor to ensure that necessary but unprofitable rail services in rural areas be protected, particularly in the north of Scotland.

Raymond Robertson, MP for Aberdeen South, gave an upbeat forecast. He described privatisation as "lessening the deadening grip of state control" and said it was easier to say what would not happen as a result of it rather than what would. "There will be no closure of the Forth rail bridge or any other bridge, no reduction in safety standards for passengers or crews, no reduction in the rural lines, and there will still be subsidies for necessary services."

Mr MacGregor endorsed the positive message: "When it is franchised to the private sector you will see a new release of energy and enthusiasm, further strides forward in the performance for passengers, but above all ScotRail will be run independently."

Scots Tories censure 'dithering' on Bosnia

By Nicholas Wood

THE government yesterday rejected impassioned calls from Tory party members for military action against the Bosnian Serbs amid accusations of ministerial dithering over the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

After a majority of speakers at the Scottish Conservative party conference had voiced frustration at the West's failure to halt the carnage, the Foreign Office minister Douglas Hogg made clear that the government was pinning its hopes on the Owen-Vance plan for a settlement.

Clare Findlay, from Moray and West Banff, whose family took in 25 Bosnian Moslem refugees last October, made an emotional plea for an end to government indecision. Recalling conversations with the refugee children and their mothers, she said: "We had an eye-witness account of just exactly what hell is like. We wept with them at the sheer horror of what had happened.

"We cannot stand by and let this go on. I understand how dreadfully complex the situation in Bosnia is, but surely the politicians can come up with something better than the dithering of the last 12 months."

Andrew Findlay, her husband and chairman of the local Tory group, said the muddled and confused signals from the European Community and the United Nations had encouraged the Bosnian Serbs to surpass even Hitler with their atrocities.

Mr Hogg ruled out the use of combat troops and underlined the government's doubts about lifting the arms embargo on the Bosnian Moslems or mounting air strikes.

Britain's objective was to put the maximum pressure on President Milosevic of Serbia through economic blockade to bring the Bosnian Serbs back to the negotiating table. Only if there were a ceasefire and a genuine settlement would Britain send peacekeeping forces.

Mr Hogg said: "We must not give up on the peace plan. It is the only existing framework for an agreement. To tear it up and cast it aside is to start anew with no kind of agreed alternative in prospect."

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CHAMPIONSHIP CHESS

By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

THE TIMES WORLD CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

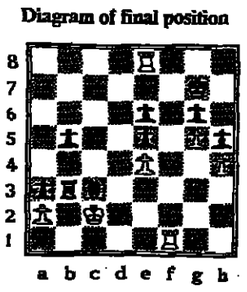
Today I continue with my collector's item series of all of the previous games between Garry Kasparov and Nigel Short. In the game which follows Short survives a blistering attack from the world champion and eventually turns the tables to score a fine win.

White: Nigel Short
Black: Garry Kasparov
London Speed Chess Challenge 1987

Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	d6
3	d4	cxd4
4	Nxd4	Nf6
5	Nc3	a6
6	Be3	e6
7	f3	Nbd7
8	g4	h6
9	h4	Ne5
10	Rg1	Qb6
11	Qc1	d5
12	Be2	dxe4
13	Nxe4	Nxe4
14	fxe4	Be7
15	Rh1	Bd7
16	c3	Qc7
17	Bf2	b5
18	Qc2	Nc4
19	Bxc4	Qxc4
20	b3	Qc7
21	0-0-0	0-0
22	Kb1	a5
23	g5	h5
24	Rhg1	a4
25	b4	Rac8
26	Rd3	g6
27	Bg3	Qb7
28	Qe2	Rc4
29	Be5	Rfc8
30	Qe3	Bc6
31	Re1	a3
32	Qf2	Be8
33	Nb3	Qc6
34	Na5	Rxb4+
35	Ka1	Qc5
36	cxb4	Qxb4
37	Qd2	Rc2
38	Qxb4	Bxb4
39	Rd8	f6
40	Rf1	bxe5
41	Rxe8+	Kg7
42	Nb3	Bc3+
43	Kb1	Rb2+
44	Kc1	Rxb3
45	Kc2	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



Each year The Times sponsors the British Schools Chess Championship. Alumni of the competition include not only Nigel Short but also grandmasters Jon Speelman, Julian Hodgson and William Watson.

This year's event is now down to the last eight. Congratulations to the following schools:

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The semi-finals and final will be held at London's Charing Cross Hotel over July 1 and 2.

Winning Move
Weekend, Page 18
Chess
Review page 52

Short beats Indian rival

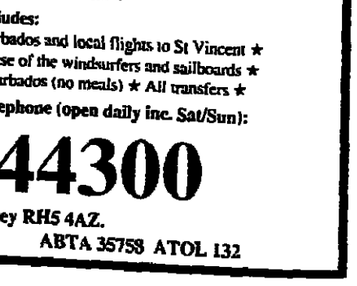
By Raymond Keene

NIGEL Short has scored an important victory in the Euwe Memorial tournament in Amsterdam. In the last round of the event on Thursday night Short scored a dramatic last-minute win against the Indian Vishy Anand, to share first prize. It was also an important psychological victory.

Rising to the occasion magnificently, Short proved that he is the most dangerous opponent of Garry Kasparov, world champion.

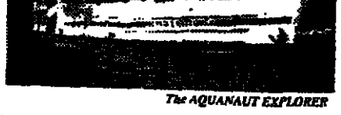
White: Nigel Short
Black: Vishy Anand
Amsterdam 1993
Petroff Defence

White	Black	White	Black
1 e4	e5	22 Qb3	b6
2 Nf3	Nf6	23 Be3	Rae8
3 Nxe5	d6	24 Rd1	Ng6
4 Nf3	Nxe4	25 a6	Qd8
5 d4	d5	26 f5	Ne5
6 Bd3	Nc6	27 Be2	Qh4
7 0-0	Be7	28 Qg3	Qxg3
8 c4	Nb4	29 hxg3	Bxa6
9 Be2	Be6	30 Rxd8	Kxd8
10 Nc3	0-0	31 cxb6	Ke7
11 Be3	Bf5	32 g5	c6
12 Ne5	Bf6	33 g4	g6
13 g4	Be6	34 Rd4	gxf5
14 f4	Nxc3	35 gxf5	Rf8
15 bxc3	Nc6	36 Rf4	b5
16 Bf3	Bxa6	37 Ke1	h5
17 cxb5	d4	38 gxh6	Rh8
18 exd4	Bxc4	39 Re4	Kf8
19 d5	Ne7	40 e7	Kd5
20 Be5	Bxf1	41 Rxe5+	Black resigned
21 Kxf1	Qd7		



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نقلاً عن الأصل

Combative Thatcher champions Patten and the rule of law

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY AND JONATHAN BRAUDE IN HONG KONG

■ By defending Hong Kong and scoring points off China, the former prime minister could have jeopardised a trip to Peking

BARONESS Thatcher delivered a double blow to China in Hong Kong yesterday. It may delay what was already a vague invitation to visit Peking.

At the end of a sweltering two-and-a-half-hour walkabout with Chris Patten, the colony's governor, during which she planted a tree and visited a temple devoted to the goddess of the sea, the woman who signed the 1984 agreement that hands Hong Kong back to China in 1997 landed hard on two of Peking's least favourite subjects: Mr Patten and the rule of law.

Only a day after a Chinese newspaper plumbed new depths in Patten abuse by calling the governor a whore, Lady Thatcher, who was mobbed by applauding crowds while Mr Patten was patting the head of every available child and shaking the hand of every grandmother, spoke of the "great esteem and affection in which the governor is held by the people of Hong Kong".

Asked whether the governor was also made of prime ministerial timber, Lady Thatcher, who must know that her former colleague is occasionally accused here of using his position for future political ends back home, noted that he would be in Hong Kong "for several years" and that his would be a "fantastic achievement which can only be done by a person of great talent, ability and political skill. He's terrific". Fixing her questioner with a laser eye, she added: "Have you got the message?"

The other message was deeply chauvinist and unmistakable in its target. Hong Kong. Lady Thatcher emphasised, is above all "something of great value to the world as a whole, with sound British administration, the great British rule of law and justice independently administered".

There was "Chinese character", too, Lady Thatcher added and, above all, "I hope and believe that others will follow our example and understand that freedom under rule of law is the way ahead for both the dignity and the prosperity of peoples." So much for those in Hong Kong who assert that trade and politics can be separated. Earlier, Lady Thatcher dismissed Chinese claims that Mr Patten's recent visit to the United States was "internationalising" the Hong Kong issue, and commended him for carrying out his fundamental duty to the people of Hong Kong. "Life is international," she said.

Lady Thatcher denied that she was acting as an intermediary between Britain and China over Mr Patten's proposals to widen democracy, when she met Zhou Nan, China's most senior representative in the colony, on Thursday. She saw no need for mediation, she said. Mr Patten added that when negotiations with China resume in Peking next week he was "hoping for some proposals from our Chinese colleagues as well".



Patten: earned praise for talent and skill



Terms of endearment: an American soldier comforting a young dik-dik antelope apparently abandoned by its mother at Kismayu airport in southern Somalia

Norway defies whaling ban

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY

NORWAY last night announced it would resume commercial whaling in defiance of a decision by the International Whaling Commission to maintain the six-year-old global ban on hunting. The move could jeopardise its application to join the European Community.

Gro Harlem Brundtland, the Norwegian prime minister, said: "We have stated that whaling will resume in 1993 and nothing that happened during the IWC meeting has made us change our minds." But a poll in the daily *Aftenposten* suggested that 52 per cent of Norwegians oppose a unilateral resumption of whaling because of fears that it might provoke a boycott of their country's exports.

At the end of a heated five-day meeting in Kyoto, Japan, the whaling commission voted to uphold the ban on commercial whaling by 18 votes to six, with six abstentions. Norway and Japan, the other main pro-whaling nation, would have had to muster the support of three-quarters of the commission's 40 members — the Solomon Islands rejoined the commission during the meeting — to lift the ban, which was adopted in 1982 and took full effect in 1988.

Mrs Brundtland, who has the support of all political parties for a resumption of whaling, said Norway had no immediate plans to leave the commission, but its continued membership would be thoroughly discussed. Earlier this year Norway said it planned to catch up to 800 minke whales in the northeast Atlantic.

Japan, host to the annual meeting of the commission for the first time in 25 years, failed to get support even for a partial easing of the ban to allow whaling villages to catch 50 minke whales a year in Japanese waters.

There was some consolation for the Japanese in a separate decision to put off until next year a vote on a French-sponsored proposal for a permanent whale sanctuary in the southern ocean.

Japan has exploited a loophole in the existing global ban to catch hundreds of minke whales a year in the Antarctic for scientific research. That loophole might have been closed had the sanctuary proposal been adopted.

Safety call by ANC as mine toll rises to 50

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

A ROW erupted yesterday about safety standards at a South African colliery where 53 miners are feared to have died only two days after it was given an award for a year free of fatalities. The bodies of 50 men have been recovered at Middelbult colliery at Secunda in eastern Transvaal, and hopes of finding anyone alive were slim.

A methane-gas explosion ripped through the section where the men, blacks and whites, were working about 400ft underground on Thursday, about two hours before the end of their ten-hour shift.

In another serious accident on Thursday, five gold miners were killed and four injured in a rock fall 6,000ft underground at the giant Vaal Reefs mine in Orange Free State.

Yesterday the African National Congress said the accidents showed that safety standards and working conditions in the mining industry needed to be investigated. The Chemical Workers Industrial Union, an ANC affiliate, said it had called for international pressure on the government to enforce "civilised health and safety regulations for miners." It said that the policy of Sasol, the colliery's owners, "to push production while reducing staffing compounds the risks to miners". The union added that an award on Tuesday to the colliery by the National Occupational Safety Association for a fatality-free year demonstrated the inadequacy of its rating system.

The National Union of Mineworkers, to which most black miners belong, said 166 people had been killed and more than 2,000 injured so far this year in mine accidents. But Middelbult was the worst since 1987, when 62 men were killed at the St Helena gold mine. Since then most underground workers have been provided with emergency packs supplying 30 minutes of oxygen: all the Middelbult miners had them.

Officials said there were signs that some men had survived the blast, but the oxygen supplies only prolonged their agony.

Talks offer: The ANC has decided at a secret meeting to seek talks with the committee of retired police and army generals who have formed the extreme right-wing Afrikaner Volksfront (Ray Kennedy writes). The ANC said negotiations were the only solution to the country's problems.

Khmer Rouge kill off a dream

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN SIHANOUKVILLE

In a surrealist scene, slim young women stand chattering around prone figures on the beach at dawn. As the sun begins to rise over the coconut palms, they become more agitated as they try to rouse the sleeping men.

They are Vietnamese *filles de joie* and have a deadline to be home. At last, they waken their groggy French consorts, are paid off and leave.

In Cambodia, Vietnamese girls may romp on the beach after midnight, but should not be out in daylight hours. Many of their sisters have already fled, after massacres of Vietnamese by the Khmer Rouge last month.

Sihanoukville, population 150,000, is Cambodia's main port and resort. In the Sixties it was a transhipment point for arms to Vietnamese communists fighting the Americans.

When Prince Norodom Sihanouk was overthrown in 1970, the city reverted to its old name, Kompong Som. The Vietnamese army stormed the beach in 1978 to overthrow Pol Pot.

Last year Prince Sihanouk, chairman of the Supreme National Council, embracing the four Cambodian factions, came to the city and it was renamed. With one of the best beaches in Asia and a fringe of tropical islands, the city seemed set to become a popular resort.

Renovation was planned for the Independence Hotel and Sokha bungalows on the beach. Cambodia's only brewery was rebuilt and is selling Angkor beer for the first time since the Seventies. The town doubled in size in a few months. "This will be the next Hong Kong," Teng Mech, 54, a restaurateur, said last year.

Then last year the Khmer Rouge opted out of the disarmament phase of the UN peacekeeping operation and said it would not take part in this month's elections. Recently, several UN peacekeepers have been killed.

Investments began to dry up. Taiwanese businessmen who had a six-month option to renovate the Independence allowed it to lapse. "I had so many dreams," the manager said. Now Teng Mech says: "Sihanoukville will be the next Hong Kong — once peace comes."

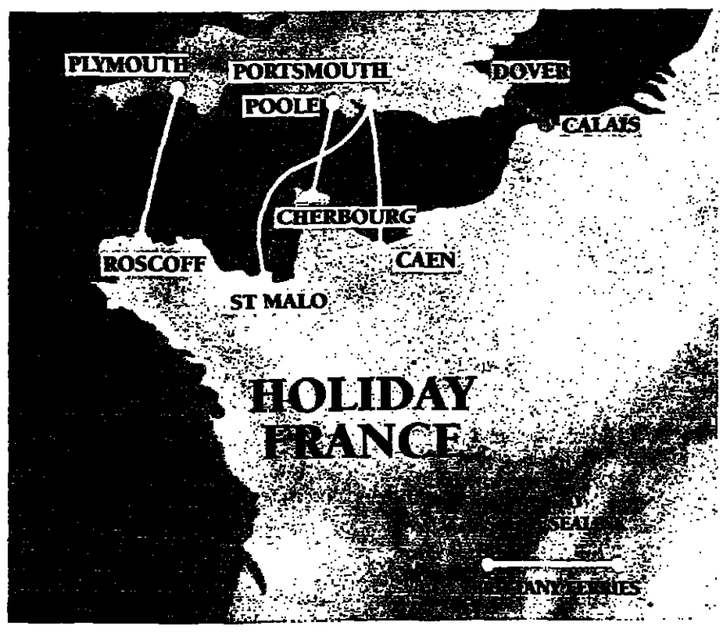
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STANDARD RETURN (Unlimited Stay)	£216	£280	£280

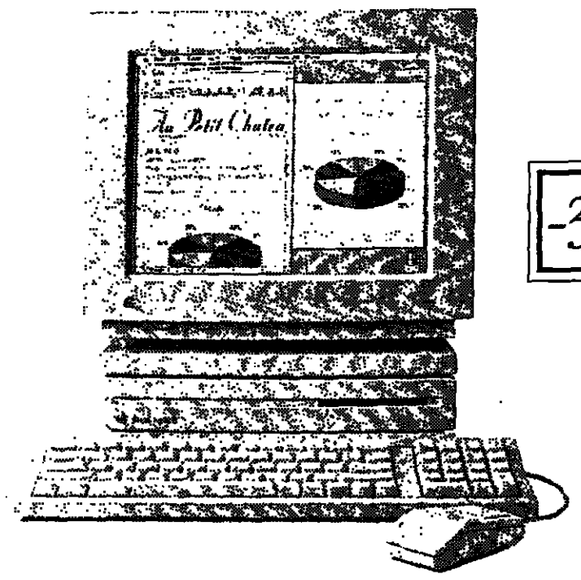
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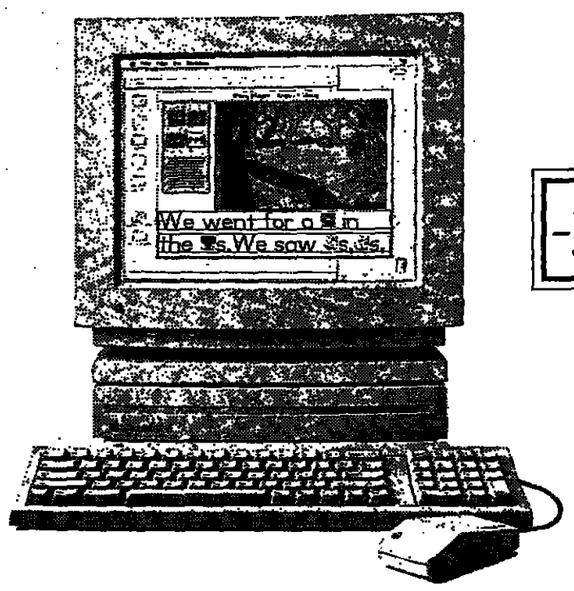
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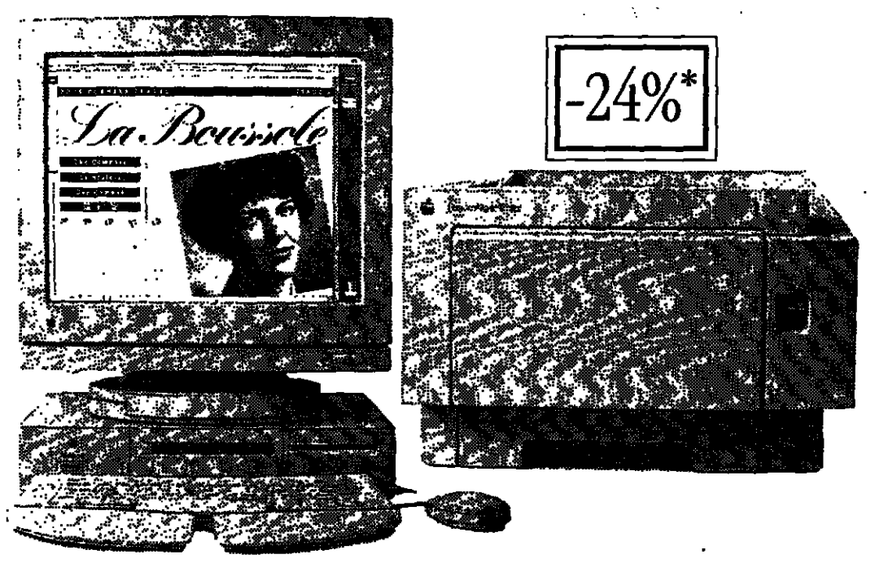
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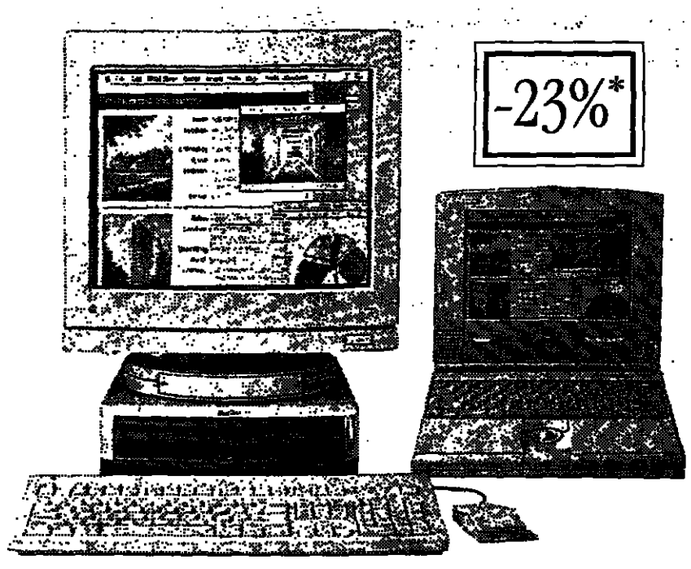
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Middle East peace process at risk

US rescue needed as talks falter

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

ARAB and Israeli negotiators returned empty-handed from the ninth round of the Middle East peace talks yesterday, giving no sign that the deadlock can be broken.

In one of the most unproductive rounds of the 18-month peace process, none of the five nations participating was able to report any progress, in spite of unprecedented American attempts to mediate. Officials in the region predicted that intense American diplomatic efforts, including a possible visit by a senior member of the Clinton administration, would probably be required if the talks are to resume as scheduled by mid-June.

"The failure of the ninth round is not like others. It will have very serious repercussions," Ghassan al-Khatib, a member of the Palestinian delegation, said. "We cannot afford to let it happen again; we need a success."

The deadlock is largely attributed to the breakdown in trust between the Palestinians and Israelis, which is likely to determine the success or failure of the separate talks with Syria, Lebanon and Jordan. Hanan Ashrawi, the Palestinian spokeswoman, said that the delegation refused to sign a joint declaration of principles drafted by America because Washington had sided with Israel. In addition, the Palestinians accused the Israelis of reneging on promises to alleviate conditions in the occupied territories and to repatriate many of the 396 Palestinians deported to Lebanon in December.

Although the Israelis insist that they made concessions on the control of land and water in a future autonomous Palestinian homeland, they are aware that creative diplomatic work will be needed to break the impasse. "This is not the end of the road," said Asher Susser of Tel Aviv University, an expert on the peace process. "But the Americans will have to play a much more active role in the talks if we want to see a breakthrough."

The stalemate could pose serious domestic problems for the government of Yitzhak Rabin, the prime minister, who is coming under growing criticism for offering too many concessions and receiving nothing in return. The right wing, particularly the main opposition Likud party, is likely to capitalise on the government's setback at the talks.

The Palestinian leadership is even more vulnerable to public pressure, particularly from the occupied territories. The 1.8 million inhabitants of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip have been sealed off for more than a month by Israeli security forces, who shot dead 17 Palestinians and left scores injured during the three weeks of negotiations.

"We predicted that the ninth round would end in failure like the others and the same will happen to the twentieth or the hundredth," said Riad Malki, a radical Palestinian academic opposed to the peace process, who believes that the UN and not the US should sponsor the talks.

☐ **Austrian visit:** Franz Vranitzky is to make the first official visit by an Austrian chancellor to Israel — a four-day stay from June 8, it was announced. *(Reuter)*



Mark of honour: Cyrus Vance, who retired recently as one of the United Nations peace mediators in former Yugoslavia, receiving the hood of an honorary doctor of laws at New York University's graduation ceremony

Kid brother steals the Big Apple

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

MENTION Clinton and politics in New York and you find yourself discussing not the president but the antics of his pop singer younger brother — a sure sign that the administration is in trouble.

Roger Clinton's presence in the Big Apple this week to perform at a nightclub with his rhythm-and-blues band, Politics, completely overshadowed Bill Clinton's visit to the city on Wednesday to attract much needed public support.

He captured the public imagination with the kind of exaggerated behaviour New Yorkers can appreciate. Arriving with his girl friend on Tuesday, he performed a welcoming gesture worthy of a visiting pope. "I outstretch my arms and look up at the skyscrapers and say 'I love it! I love it here!'," he said.

It was at a basketball game in Madison Square Garden on Wednesday night that Roger really earned his spurs with the tabloid press. "Ragin' Roger", as the *New York Post* described him, was reported to have attacked a well dressed stockbroker in the crowd who insulted his brother.

Clinton's tax plan clears first hurdle

■ **Although Congress has backed his deficit plan, the president has gone on his travels to win over the people**

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Clinton's plan for America's biggest tax increases has passed its first big congressional test, winning approval of the key House ways and means committee with few important changes.

However, Mr Clinton's euphoria was punctured quickly yesterday by a Gallup poll showing his own approval ratings plummeting another ten points in three weeks to a new low of 45 per cent. That figure will make the White House shudder. It knows the fate of the president's painful deficit reduction and health care reform plans, the heart of his legislative programme, depends critically on his ability to rally the public behind him. Without that support, he has little chance of imposing his will on a Congress whose instinctive reaction when faced with tough decisions is to bolt.

To date, the president has lost the public relations war hands down. He has let the Republicans paint him as an old-style tax-and-spender instead of a deficit-cutter. Crises in Russia and Bosnia have waylaid the laser he promised to focus on the economy. He campaigned as a socially conservative "New Democrat" and the champion of hard-working, middle-class America. In office, he has seemed more concerned with the rights of homosexuals and minorities.

Mr Clinton has acknowledged a lack of focus and direction. One aide likened him to a mosquito in a nudist colony: "There's so much territory to cover, you don't know where to land first". He has embarked on a public repositioning in an attempt to recapture the crusading spirit of last year's campaign.

He dumped Bosnia in what a diplomat labelled the "too-difficult-to-handle tray". He left the capital and made the first of what are to be weekly forays to the heartlands to "reconnect" with the people.

Before a public worried that tax increases will finance yet more government spending, Mr Clinton produced his trump card. He pledged that all new revenues would go straight to a trust fund dedicated to deficit reduction, a gimmick denounced as a conjurer's trick by Robert Dole, the Senate's Republican leader.

Mr Clinton took great heart from Thursday's congressional victory, but will find it tough to regain the public's confidence. He is widely perceived as having broken a string of campaign promises and, while he publicly damns lobbyists, he attended a Democratic party fund-raiser in New York on Wednesday night that raised $3 million (£2 million) from those very same pedlars of influence.



Dole: Clinton's idea is "conjuring trick"

Simon Jenkins, page 14



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President yields to European pressure but pursues 'arms for Muslims' plan to protect safe havens

Clinton hints at use of troops in Bosnia

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON AND JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

PRESIDENT Clinton failed to rule out yesterday for the first time the deployment of American troops in Bosnia to protect Muslim "safe havens" as the Europeans have been urging. However, he continued to express reservations about such a move.

In his most detailed discussion yet of possible options, Mr Clinton also left open the possibility of air strikes against Serb artillery to even the odds. He said his preferred means of achieving that was to arm the Muslims, but acknowledged that consultations with the allies had produced only an agreement that that option should remain live.

Interviewed by *The Washington Post*, Mr Clinton indicated that he would not try to impose his preferred strategy on the allies, as some of his advisers have been pleading. "We have a lot of other issues at stake with the Europeans over the next several years, and the way we handle this and the way it resonates will affect all that," he said.

Until now Mr Clinton persistently has ruled out the deployment of American troops in Bosnia except to police a universally accepted peace accord. But when asked whether he would consider the EC proposal that American troops should help to create Muslim "safe havens" he replied: "I'm not there yet."

He said the most compelling argument for "safe havens" was that they would stop "ethnic cleansing", but added that effectively they would consolidate Serb territorial gains and tie down Western forces in isolated places indefinitely. Creating them would not be wise "unless we had an idea of how this will lead to a comprehensive political solution".

Mr Clinton previously had considered air strikes as a means of protecting the Muslims until they were armed, but he agreed yesterday that they could be "partly" successful for the alternative purpose of destroying Serb armaments. The problem was the lack of historical evidence that air power alone produced results "on the battlefield or at the conference table". If he launched air strikes without knowing how to end them, "you wind up with air power dragging you into a whole lot of options that you don't want".

One particular problem Mr Clinton faces is that any American military commitment would make it almost impossible for the world's only superpower to pull out before ending the conflict. The president called Bosnia the "thorniest foreign policy problem we have faced in a long, long time".

As the president detailed his options, diplomatic relations between Rome and Belgrade plunged after Serb nationalists threatened to fire missiles at Italian cities and Italy said it would react with force to a Serb attack.

"Italy will not tolerate threats," Beniamino Andreatta, the foreign minister, said in Rome. He was responding to Vojeslav Seselj, the Serbian nationalist deputy, who said: "Serbia is in possession of missiles that can reach Italy and also hit civilian targets." Mr Seselj said Serb forces had 16 medium-range SS22 missiles aimed at Italy ready to be fired if air attacks are launched on Serb targets from Nato bases in Italy.

The missile threat has worried the Italians. Libya fired a Scud missile at Italy in 1986 after the American bombing of Tripoli, but it missed its target. At that time, Italy did not respond to the Libyan attack with force.

Letters, page 15



Strategy session: President Milosevic, left, the Bosnian Serb leader, discussing the Vance-Owen proposals with President Cosic of Yugoslavia in Belgrade yesterday as Serb legislators debated the peace plan

Owen and Milosevic are defied as 'phantom' state holds referendum

FROM TIM JUDAH IN BANJA LUKA

■ Bosnia's Serbs reject the Vance-Owen plan. For remaining Croats and Muslims, that leaves only the exit door

IN THE unlikely event that Banja Luka's Serbian leadership happened to be watching CNN television yesterday, they might have been surprised to see Lord Owen fulminating about the Bosnian Serb referendum which begins this morning.

"Nobody takes it seriously," said Lord Owen. "They haven't had time to have a proper campaign, to put the arguments for or against, to print ballot papers, make boxes or anything. It's chaos."

In room 74 of Banja Luka town hall it was anything but chaos. Neat paper bags with tidy packets of ballot slips were waiting to be picked up by officials from the area's 117 polling stations. Each bag contained all the paperwork necessary, including printouts of the electoral registers.

As the Serbs of the self-proclaimed Bosnian Serb Republic prepared for their two-day poll on the Vance-Owen peace plan, only one thing was optional for electoral officials as they arrived to collect their bags. It was the campaign poster. Superimposed on a map of the proposed division of Bosnia-Herzegovina into ten provinces is a well-known photograph allegedly captured from Arab volunteers fighting with the Bosnian Muslims. It purports to show a man's boot on a severed Serb head with two more heads in a box. The caption seems almost redundant: "Vote No to the Vance-Owen plan".

Defying the world and, more importantly, President Milosevic of Serbia, the Bosnian Serbs will vote overwhelmingly to reject the Vance-Owen plan. The northern town of Banja Luka would, under the plan, stay Serb but neighbouring regions would have to be yielded to Muslim or Croat control. Few Bosnian Serbs say they can accept this.

Even more important is the fact that Banja Luka lies at the end of a land corridor that the Serbs have fought and died for in large numbers and which links them to Serbia. The map gives most of this area to Croats and Muslims but Lord Owen has conceded that the corridor itself would be under United Nations control. It is not a concession that will swing votes in Banja Luka. Soldiers guarding the corridor laugh at the idea that it will ever be given up.

At its narrowest point, at Brcko, the corridor is a mere two miles wide. As if to underline its fragility, UN military observers confirmed reports of fighting there yesterday, despite an otherwise widely respected ceasefire.

Rajko Kasagic is the head of the Banja Luka referendum commission. "We have had a common state [with Muslims and Croats] twice before. If we make the same mistake again there will be another war." Mr Kasagic does not pretend to be impartial. Like other Bosnian Serb leaders he has been campaigning hard for a "no" vote.

To help persuade voters, he has told them that under the terms of the plan Serbs would be reduced from holding 70 per cent of the republic to less than 20 per cent. According to otherwise widely accepted figures the plan leaves the Serbs with 43 per cent.

Serb refugees will be able to vote and like almost everyone else they vigorously oppose the plan. They have fled from Muslim and Croat-held areas and have no intention of returning despite optimistic clauses about "ombudsmen" for human rights in the Vance-Owen plan.

About 200,000 people live in the Banja Luka area, of whom 40,000 are Muslims and Croats who have not yet left or been driven out. Muharem Krzic, the head of the Bosnian Muslim political party, which exists only on paper in Banja Luka, claims that Serb officials have threatened Muslim families telling them to vote. "They were told: 'If you don't vote, you'll be cleared out.'" Bedrudin Gusic, the president of Banja Luka's Islamic community, said: "We are advising people not to vote. If we did anything else we would be admitting the existence of the Bosnian Serb republic, which is a phantom state."

Michel Minnig, the Banja Luka delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross, is the gloomiest man in town. He says that whether or not the Vance-Owen plan is implemented the Croats and Muslims of Banja Luka will inevitably have to leave.

A week ago Banja Luka's historic mosques were blown up. He shrugs: "Just another example of harassment, another sign that they cannot stay. The Serbs here are ready to die, to go to the end."



British soldiers arrive to sounds of battle

FROM MICHAEL EVANS IN VITEZ

The last company of soldiers for the new British battalion group now settling in to its camp at Vitez arrived after a 12-hour mountain trip from Split with dust covering their faces like desert camouflage.

Some of the younger soldiers had left the comfort of the Croatian port looking understandably apprehensive. Their home for the next six months promises to be at the centre of conflict, whichever way the international community turns — towards greater intervention or not.

It is midday and already the crackle of gunfire and thump of mortars up in the villages across the field next to the camp signal another burst of close-quarter fighting between Muslims and Croats. Since last month's battles in the Vitez area between the so-called allies in this war, the daily shooting has diminished.

Vitez, however, has an atmosphere reminiscent of Sarajevo's. When I was here last November, it was safe to walk around, even to visit the local Croat HVO army headquarters at the Hotel Vitez. Now the town is under its own special form of siege, with the Muslims in the old quarter surrounded by hostile Croats. The streets are almost empty. If they have to come out of their homes, men, women and children dash across the roads to avoid the snipers who sit menacingly at vantage points.

The soldiers from the 1st Battalion The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire, who have replaced the Cheshires, venture into Vitez only in armoured vehicles. They are not under direct threat from either side, but the tension between the Croats and Muslims, now about to explode again, poses obvious dangers.

Up in the hills on Vlasic mountain, ten miles away, the Serb battery of guns also remains a permanent threat to the British base. For the moment, though, the Serb front line has advanced no closer to Vitez and the main concern is the threat of a new clash between the British battalion's neighbours in Vitez.

Last month's fighting between Croats and Muslims began when a local Croat HVO commander was kidnapped and his three bodyguards were killed. The incident led to appalling atrocities. Despite the eventual ceasefire, the threat of further murderous recriminations grows each day.

Behind the personal revenge motive, there lies the wider fear on the part of both Croats and Muslims of secret plans in which one side will sweep the other from their homes across the central Lasva valley.

Serbs push to widen territorial corridor

FROM JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO

FIGHTING was reported yesterday along the strategically important northern corridor linking much of Serb-held territory in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia to Serbia. The Serbs were thought to be trying to solidify their hold on Bosnian areas while the West develops plans to send about 70,000 peacekeepers to the republic.

Sarajevo radio reported yesterday evening that the offensive was intensifying and that 30 Serb tanks were involved in an attack on Bosnian army and Croatian forces' positions. It said 20 people had been killed in the Serb assault since Thursday, describing Serb shelling as the heaviest since the war began 13 months ago. A United Nations spokesman in Sarajevo called the fighting an "extremely serious" violation of the ceasefire which took effect six days ago between the Bosnian army and Serbs.

The heaviest clashes of the war have been over control of the corridor in the Brcko area, where in places it is just a mile wide. The Croats and the mainly Muslim Bosnian army are still allies in the area, the most strategically important in the republic.

UN military observers travelled to the area round the northern town on Thursday. Yesterday they confirmed that the Serbs had launched an attack with artillery, multiple rocket-launchers and infantry, apparently to widen the corridor. The link is vital for both military and commercial reasons, and loosing control of it would be a death blow to much of their territorial gains in Bosnia and Croatia.

In the southwest city of Mostar, where a ceasefire failed to take effect on Thursday, small-arms clashes continued yesterday, though the artillery and mortar fire of recent days had quietened. Spanish UN troops, patrolling the city in an attempt to restore order, reported that they had 40 tyres shot out on their vehicles in the past two days.

Bonn pulls back from Croatian love affair

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

KLAUS Kinkel, the German foreign minister, flew to Zagreb yesterday to drive home European Community warnings that Croatia should halt its version of "ethnic cleansing" of Muslims in central Bosnia.

Bonn, which pushed for early Community recognition of Croatian independence in 1991, has considerable influence with President Tudjman of Croatia. Throughout the present war the German press has focused on Serbian atrocities and played down disturbing events in Croatia. The Balkan game has moved on, however, and demands a more circumspect policy.

Herr Kinkel was careful in an interview before his departure to avoid taking sides. Croatia, he said, should not expect too much from Germany; Bonn's protective hand could not be stretched out at a time when Croats were killing or displacing Bosnian Muslims. A rigid anti-Serbian posture had to be avoided.

That was partly the backtracking of a politician who has reached the limits of his policy. The closer the West comes to military intervention, the more politically vulnerable is the German position. Despite loudly urging firm military action against Serbia, Bonn cannot commit combat troops nor even make a big financial contribution to support its rhetoric. It can, however, make a credible threat of sanctions against Croatia. German aid, investment and tourism are the lifeblood of the Croatian economy.

The Croats are fighting in Bosnia for three reasons. First, they want to consolidate their captured territory, especially western Herzegovina, and as far as possible to change the Vance-Owen map in their favour before the plan is implemented. When United Nations troops are in place, that will be more difficult.

Second, there is resentment about some recent territorial concessions made to Bosnian Muslims at Croatian expense. Third, the Croats believe they must build a defensive line before the next round of Serb-Croat fighting breaks out.

The Bosnian Serbs, whether they agree to the Vance-Owen plan or not, covet a sea outlet in Zadar or Sibenik to guarantee the supply routes to Serbs in Krajina. The Croats will not concede that because it would split Croatia and make the country undefendable. On that issue, they are willing to risk international disapproval.

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Khasbulatov deserted as hardliners back Yeltsin

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN MOSCOW

THE hardline opposition to President Yeltsin of Russia suffered a severe blow yesterday when Nikolai Ryabov, the deputy chairman of parliament, came out in favour of the president's proposal for a constitutional assembly.

Mr Ryabov has been a strong critic of Mr Yeltsin and a supporter of his arch-rival, Ruslan Khasbulatov, the parliamentary Speaker. Mr Ryabov's speech, which was supported by other hardline deputies, appears to have badly undermined Mr Khasbulatov's authority over the fractious parliament.

Mr Khasbulatov this week repeatedly denounced President Yeltsin's summoning for June 5 of a constitutional assembly representing Russia's regions, saying that only parliament had the right to debate and approve a new constitution. The upper chamber yesterday accepted a motion from Vladimir Isako, a hardline deputy, to ask the constitutional court to rule if the president had acted legally.

However, Mr Ryabov told parliament: "Rejection of this presidential proposal would lead us on to a path of social confrontation." When a rattled Mr Khasbulatov tried to talk him down, Mr Ryabov was supported by other hardliners. Ramazan Abdulatipov, the upper chamber chairman, said: "We have to start a dialogue with the presidential side."

Even if hardline deputies accept the legitimacy of the constitutional assembly, there is nothing to stop them using it to argue for their own parliamentary constitution and against the presidential model favoured by Mr Yeltsin. The assembly will contain many hardline regional representatives and Mr Ryabov's new stand may be based partly on that calculation. Opposition to the president has also been weakened by his victory in last month's referendum, which some hardline deputies have accepted, but which Mr Khasbulatov rejected.

Mr Khasbulatov is widely resented for his crude and sometimes neurotic approach to controlling parliament. Hardliners also dislike him for his Chechen nationality and because he was formerly a Yeltsin supporter.

President Yeltsin's prestige may have been boosted by a summit in Moscow yesterday of the Commonwealth of Independent States at which nine of the ten members followed Russia's lead in signing a declaration proposing an economic union. However, Turkmenistan refused to sign and President Kravchuk of Ukraine later played down the significance of the declaration, saying that it was only a statement of intent. Turkmenistan is suspicious of economic union because it fears being forced to sell its natural gas at reduced prices, while Ukraine fears anything that smacks of a restoration of the former Soviet Union.

Mr Yeltsin, however, hailed the agreement, calling it "a turning point in the history of our commonwealth". He said that the time of "civilised divorce" between the former Soviet republics was over and that customs and currency unions were necessary. But only last week, Kirghizia became the latest republic to establish its own currency.

Mr Yeltsin and Eduard Shevardnadze, the Georgian leader, met to discuss the conflict in the breakaway Georgian region of Abkhazia. The two leaders agreed to try to bring about a ceasefire from May 20, to withdraw heavy weapons from both sides and to send special envoys to talk with the Abkhazian leadership. However, it is doubtful whether either leader can make his will felt. In recent days, Abkhazian representatives have declared that they will accept only a complete Georgian withdrawal. The Russian army officers who are helping the Abkhazians — almost certainly with the backing of the Russian high command — are also unlikely to heed their president's order.

Teacher is key to limiting trauma

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

AS A psychiatric team waited yesterday for the end of the nursery school siege in Neuilly, experts said the long-term effects of the ordeal on the children from would be shaped largely by the performance of Laurence Dreyfus, their teacher.

If the drama ended soon and peacefully, Mme Dreyfus and the parents were as likely to need as much or more held than the three-year-olds and four-year-olds, said Dr Denis Puech, the founder of France's first unit devoted to treating former hostages and victims of terrorism.

Mme Dreyfus, 30, who has a 20-month-old daughter and only recently qualified as a teacher, was praised yesterday for the courage, devotion and common sense she had showed since the gunman entered her class at the nursery section of the Commandant Charcot school. Visitors to the class, including a television reporter, said she had kept the children to a routine as close to normal as possible, and had reassured them that the gunman was playing a game.

Psychiatrists yesterday said the reassurance of the teacher was crucial to avoiding trauma for the three-year-olds. "We have to give homage to Mme Dreyfus," said Dr Gerard Lucas, a psychiatrist at a Paris hospital. "She has been able to transform this terrible drama into a sort of game. In a way, the parents will be the most exposed."

Dr Edwige Gentier, another paediatric psychiatrist, said the calming power of the teacher would wear out as time passed. "Three years is an absolutely crucial age for a child's process of socialisation. It's an extremely vulnerable time when they first come in contact with the world. The teacher is the key. She has their total confidence and her reactions tell them how to feel ... But as time passes the children will realise that they are not going home and things are unusual."

A child psychiatrist was allowed to talk to the children at lunchtime yesterday. She reported that they were bearing up well. Journalists who have children at the school were also full of praise for Suzanne Soullie, the headmistress. Another doctor said he believed it highly probable that some of the children, despite all the reassurance they would receive, would forever "associate school with this terrifying experience".

The mother of a boy released from the class on Thursday said her son seemed fine until he arrived home. "Once home, my son was white. Very shocked. He said he had seen the man's revolver."

Dr Puech said the children's inability to perceive time made them less vulnerable than their parents to the ravages of anxiety. It will be vital for the parents to be able to "share their worry together with other parents who have been through the same thing so that they do not have the impression that they have experienced something they cannot describe".

As the link between the gunman and the authorities and as the protector of the children, Mme Dreyfus would need more help than anyone, Dr Puech said.

Gunman's threat, page 1



High anxiety: mothers waiting outside the western Parisian nursery school where their children were still being held to ransom

NEWS IN BRIEF

WHO plans review of Aids effort

Geneva: The World Health Organisation is to review its global strategy on Aids after leading donors pressed for rival United Nations agencies to be given a greater role.

Diplomats said donor nations that contribute to the $75 million (£49 million) annual budget of the agency's global programme on Aids believed their money could be spent more effectively if UN rivalries were pushed out of the way. *(Reuter)*

Officials return

Quetta: Jack Dodds, of Britain, and two other European diplomats kidnapped by an Afghan guerrilla commander three weeks ago, flew back to Karachi looking pale but fit, after being handed over to Pakistani officials. *(Reuter)*

Uranium deal

Moscow: Russia is ready to sign a contract to supply the US energy industry with 500 tonnes of enriched uranium from dismantled Soviet weapons. The uranium would cost $780 (£511) a kilo, about the world market level. *(Reuter)*

Gangster dies

Brussels: Belgium's most notorious gangster, Patrick Haemers, 40, hanged himself from a prison radiator with a piece of electric cable after barricading his cell door and demanding drugs, court officials said. *(Reuter)*

Judge quits

Delhi: V. Ramaswamy, the Indian supreme court judge who survived an attempt in parliament to impeach him on corruption charges, announced that he would resign. *(Reuter)*

Teresa injured

Rome: Mother Teresa, touring convents in Europe, has been admitted to hospital here with three broken ribs after she tripped while going to chapel. Dr Vincenzo Bilotta, her doctor, said: "She is well, but suffering pain." *(AP)*

Hungary fails to get missile protection

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

TWO days before an official visit to Nato headquarters by Hungary's foreign minister, alliance officials have quietly rebuffed Budapest's request for security guarantees and anti-aircraft missiles to protect the country from possible Serb attacks.

Hungary, one of the former Warsaw Pact members that has formal links with Nato in the North Atlantic Co-operation Council, asked the organisation to provide such guarantees in return for allowing Nato Awacs surveillance planes to continue using its air space to monitor the no-fly zone over Bosnia.

Officials in Brussels would not comment officially on the alliance's reaction but Nato states have made it clear they are not willing to extend the same protection to Hungary as they do to the 16 Nato members. "Whatever the Awacs planes are doing over Hungary they are doing in support of the United Nations," an official said. Nato does not believe that Hungary will carry out any threat to bar the Awacs planes from its air space.

The Co-operation Council, which brings Nato and the former Warsaw Pact together for regular discussion of security, peacekeeping and military manoeuvres, does not extend direct Nato protection or mutual security guarantees to Eastern European countries, although several have lobbied hard for this. Last December, Albania formally applied for membership of Nato — a request that was also diplomatically turned aside.

Hungary's call for security guarantees, made because of fears of Serbian retaliation across its shared border, has embarrassed the alliance: it does not want to jeopardise Hungarian co-operation in putting pressure on Serbia, but it cannot accept the precedent of formal security links. Instead, Nato told the Hungarians that they were protected by the UN charter.

Geza Jeszenszky, the Hungarian foreign minister, will discuss the matter with Manfred Wörner, the Nato secretary-general, in Brussels on Monday. He is likely to be told that the West believes any formal deployment of missiles pointing at Serbia is liable to be seen as provocative in Belgrade and would complicate attempts to engage Serbia in efforts to end the civil war in former Yugoslavia.

Germans agree on wages parity

FROM ADAM LEBOR IN BERLIN

THE east German labour movement claimed a victory yesterday as steel and engineering employers retracted their cancellation of a wage deal to raise east German workers' salaries to western levels.

After 20 hours of talks that stretched through the night in the southern city of Dresden, both sides said they had reached an agreement to end the 12-day strike, the first legal work stoppage in the region since Hitler banned trade unions in 1933.

The strike erupted almost two weeks ago when employers tore up an agreement to raise east German steel and metal workers' wages by 26 per cent to western levels. They offered 9 per cent instead, claiming that the ravaged state of much east German industry meant the money did not exist to pay higher wage bills.

Under the new deal, eastern wages will be boosted instead to western levels, with increases taking them to 80 per cent of western wages to be implemented by December this year, eight months later than in the original contract. Parity will be reached in July 1996. Employers claimed a partial victory by ensuring that the new agreement includes an escape clause for firms suffering severe economic hardship. That part of the new agreement will allow some weak companies to negotiate their own local wage agreements. The compromise between the strikers and their bosses had been possible only because of that key clause, Hans Peter Münter, the employers' spokesman, said

The agreement must be approved by union members across east Germany before the strike can stop. Up to 40,000 steel and metal workers throughout the region have downed tools and ballots are planned for Monday and Tuesday. Union officials said, however, they were confident that the workforce would agree to its terms, describing the deal as "a good and acceptable package". Union officials predicted that the strike could be over by Wednesday.

☐ **Bonn:** Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, under fire from industry for pursuing a new state insurance plan to cover chronic illness, said yesterday that he could accept a phased introduction of the programme. *(Reuter)*

Outside influence adds momentum to a Danish 'yes'

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN COPENHAGEN

IF THEIR referendum on Maastricht were a film, angry Danes would call the saga *The Invasion of the Campaign Snatchers*. Outsiders stand accused of hijacking the debate for their own wicked purposes.

When Danes turned the treaty down last year, interference came from European Community grandees who loomed over Denmark and wagged reproving fingers at the "no" campaign. Every imaginable evil short of a plague of frogs was threatened if Danes disobeyed orders.

This year, the tables have been turned. The "no" campaign is trailing: yesterday's Gallup poll showed "yes" at 50 per cent, "no" at 32 and 18 per cent undecided or abstaining. The actual result next Tuesday night is likely to be closer, but the "yes" campaign has the initiative.

They also have the monopoly of complaints about interfering outsiders. Sensitive to the charge they were importing foreigners to tell Danes how to think, pro-treaty organisers deftly removed some of their own liabilities. Lord Tebbit was due to debate with Enrique Baron of the European parliament. If the MEP had shown up, Lord Tebbit would have eaten him for lunch. Wisely he withdrew, as did another MEP who dropped out of a televised debate with Sir James Goldsmith. Sir James took full-page advertisements in every Danish newspaper to put his arguments for a "no" which never reached the screen.

"Danes hate this," said a senior government official. "Goldsmith made a big mistake by spending so much money. In a few days, he will be the most hated man in Denmark. You watch the prime minister tonight."

It is hard to imagine Poul Nyrup Rasmussen being rude about anybody and he never mentioned Sir James in his broadcast. Mr Rasmussen is the Geoffrey Howe of Danish politics: sensible, unstoppable and soporific. He was filmed taking a train ride with a series of voters worried about the effect of Maastricht on pensions and UN peacekeeping. He suffocated them with relentless reasonableness.

He even managed to turn the latest devaluation in the exchange-rate mechanism into an argument for endorsing Maastricht. We need our EC friends to keep the Danish kroner out of trouble, he says six times a day. He has skilfully turned a wide-ranging battle of ideas about the future of Europe into a domestic vote of confidence in his Social Democratic party. His party faithful intuitively dislike European union but seem ready to follow their leader.

The ferocious battles over ratifying Maastricht have reminded European leaders that the internal politics of EC states determine how much or little they can do in the Community. Referendums will remain at the heart of the struggles over the Community's size, shape and soul for the rest of the 1990s and probably beyond.



Goldsmith: has filled papers with adverts

Camels go as Opera cleans up its act at Caracalla baths

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

A SIMMERING row between the Rome Opera and the ministry of cultural heritage over whether the Caracalla baths are suitable for open-air performances was has been resolved by a compromise. The traditional summer opera and ballet programme will go ahead but Verdi's *Aida* will be produced without camels on stage.

Gianpaolo Cresci, the superintendent of the Rome Opera, has been embroiled for a year in efforts to prevent Alberto Ronchey, the minister of cultural heritage, from closing Caracalla to the public on the ground that the Roman ruins are structurally unsound. However, Signor Cresci said the number of stalls and bars in the baths would be reduced, firework performances cancelled and the live animals used to dramatic effect in the past would not be part of *Aida* this year. It will be the first time in 53 years that the camels have not featured in the summer performances. Signor Cresci has argued that retaining Caracalla is essential if the Rome Opera is to compete with La Scala of Milan. "Caracalla was invented by Mussolini. I don't believe Ronchey can close it," he said in an interview.

"The row over Caracalla was not a problem between Ronchey and me. It is a problem for the city of Rome. Rome is one of the most squalid cities. There is nowhere else for people to go," he said. The number of seats in the theatre at the baths has been reduced from 12,000 to 7,000 to diminish the risks of overcrowding.

This summer's performance of *Aida* will star Sharon Sweet, Alessandra Marc, Giorgio Merighi and Stefania Toczyska. Performances of *Turandot* and *Tosca* are also planned, as well as a ballet version of *Zorba the Greek* and a showing of the Federico Fellini film *La Strada*, which starred Anthony Quinn.

Municipal authorities threatened to exclude animals from *Aida* at Caracalla last year but the ban was circumvented at the last minute. Signor Cresci has come under fire for what critics see as his excessive spending at the helm of the Rome Opera but he hopes private sponsorship will take the theatre into the black.

The recession has cast a pall over cultural events in Italy as state subsidies for the arts have been slashed. However, another traditional summer event, the Festival of Two Worlds at Spoleto, is scheduled to take place normally this year.

"The good news is that none of the organisers has been arrested," said Giancarlo Menotti, the Spoleto festival director, referring to the national corruption scandal.



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Alexander Chancellor in New York



■ Going to hear the president is an ordeal, but it is also the best way to understand his message

The weather is very erratic in New York. It is quite cool now, but on Wednesday the temperature soared above 90 F, and this was the day that had been chosen for President Clinton to pay his first visit to this city since the election campaign last year. I had never seen him in the flesh, so I accepted an invitation to go downtown to the Cooper Union to hear him make what was billed as a major speech on the economy. Since early morning, radio and television had been warning of traffic gridlock and "freeze zones", so I did the sensible thing and took the subway, the only form of transport that can be relied upon to work even during blizzards and presidential visits.

A frenzy always surrounds such visits, but it was especially bad that day. There had been a bomb scare, and the police had sealed off all the streets around the building where the president was to speak, and were issuing contradictory instructions to the bewildered invitees. I found myself in the company of a 92-year-old woman, a lifelong Republican who had voted for Bill Clinton because of her anger with George Bush's attitudes to abortion, gun control and the environment, and we had to wander for half a mile around the area before gaining admission to the place where the tickets were being issued. There we waited an hour before being put through rigorous security checks and admitted to the hall, where we waited another hour and a half before Mr Clinton arrived, two hours later than scheduled. Throughout the whole ordeal, the old lady remained calm and cheerful, as did everybody else except myself. Americans, even those accustomed to luxury and limousines, are prepared to tolerate gross indignities for the privilege of seeing their president.

The Cooper Union is a historic place, opened in 1859 by the philanthropist Peter Cooper as a centre of free education for the working classes of New York. Here was constructed a Great Hall for lectures and political debates, and it was here in 1860 that Abraham Lincoln delivered a great attack on slavery — the "right makes might" speech to which he later attributed his nomination for the presidency. That was one of the reasons why the White House wanted Mr Clinton to speak at the Cooper Union. He has been crusading around the country for higher taxes to cut the budget deficit, and he tried in his speech to invoke the spirit of Lincoln, demanding faith in economic recovery, just as his great predecessor had called from the same lectern for faith in the struggle against slavery.

Although the bare stage had been dolled up for the occasion, with red curtains and statues of Lincoln and George Washington, the starkness and simplicity of the Great Hall offered an appropriate setting for such an appeal, and for once the president spoke without the assistance of one of those mysterious, transparent autocues. Perhaps his advisers were trying to counter the glitzy image created by Mr Clinton's seeming infatuation with movie stars, whom he wines and dines in Washington and arranges to have briefed by his officials on everything from Bosnia to nuclear defence. Barbra Streisand and Sharon Stone were among the guests at a flashy fund-raising dinner held at the Lincoln Center that evening, but journalists were not admitted and the event was hardly reported in the press.

If he often seems a little smarmy and false, Mr Clinton is a wonderfully articulate speaker by comparison with his immediate predecessor, and he is also capable, unlike Mr Bush, of conveying a sense of serious purpose. Furthermore, after a difficult and gruelling first 100 days in office, he still displays almost alarming energy and good health. Perhaps it is the jogging that does it. He revealed on Wednesday that when he runs, which he does each morning, he generally covers a mile in eight and a half minutes.

> One can certainly see why Bill Clinton tries to talk directly to the people

His speech was received with wild enthusiasm, especially from the Cooper Union students, who were in a particularly good mood that afternoon, having been temporarily released from their final examinations to hear him talk. He basked for a while in their ovation, and then went outside into the street, took off his jacket, and dived into the rows of gawpers for a gratifying *bain de foule*. His shirt was dripping with sweat, but he didn't mind. He is obviously addicted to pressing the flesh.

Next day's newspapers reflected neither the intensity of his appeal for economic sacrifice nor the warmth of his reception, but instead focused clinically upon the one new proposal he made in his speech, which was to set up a special account — he called it a "trust fund" — into which the money from new taxes and public spending cuts would be placed, so that people would know that it was being used for no purpose other than reducing the deficit. The papers also reported in detail all of the obstacles this proposal is likely to meet. That, of course, is what journalists are supposed to do, but one can understand why Mr Clinton tries to cut them out and to communicate directly with the people.

Richard Morrison says the price of compact discs is no business of a committee of MPs

Perfect sound — but too much interference

It's showtime at the Westminster Palace of Varieties, and the play is called *Let's Put the Boot into the Music Industry*. So far the line-up has been a little, shall we say, short of glamour. Gerald Kaufman topping the bill in the role of The People's Champion is unexpected casting indeed. Kevin Costner was not available, I suppose.

Now, however, the prima donna has arrived: the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Some had written her off as a serious talent in the *laissez-faire* 1980s. But if this new show runs and runs, as the critics expect, the dear old MMC's career could yet scale new heights.

Why the obsession with the price of compact discs? As a parent, I am appalled by the cost of clothing my offspring in the style to which (I am assured) their school-chums are accustomed. Three pairs of designer trainers: goodbye to two hundred quid. But I do not expect Mr Kaufman to come galloping along on his white donkey to bully Messrs Reebok and Nike into lowering their profits. I accept that I am not compelled to buy these luxury items. I have free will; they have a free market. Those two concepts do not enter into the Kaufman view of the world.

Or what about books? The publishing companies, unlike the record business, openly operate a cosy price-fixing mechanism called the Net Book Agreement. They justify it with precisely the same reasoning that the record business justifies CD prices: because it ensures that smaller firms, which offer specialist lists, can survive. Yet I hear no clamour from Westminster for the Bloomsbury brigade to knock £2 off their hardbacks. Mr Kaufman and his band of fearless crusaders have a very selective idea of what constitutes a rip-off.

Nevertheless, the basic question remains: are we being ripped off by the record business? Here I declare an interest. I like music. I like being able to walk into a good record shop and purchase an obscure Bohemian 17th-century wind serenade. I love the fact that you can choose practically any piece of music written in the last seven centuries, pick up the *Gramophone Catalogue*, and find not just one recording of it but usually several. That is called consumer choice. Profits, properly reinvested, make it possible. Force the profits down and you jeopardise the astonishing variety.

I also like the fact that we have a music industry which still allows tiny independent rock labels to spring up, discover teenage nobodies, make them famous, and sell them on to a major label. It is these cottage-industry operators that will be crippled if CD prices are forced downwards, not the Sonys and the EMIs.

"Ah," the Kaufman Inquisition will shout (and shout was certainly the operative word at the Heritage Committee's monstrous proceedings last month) — "but explain why CD prices are so much higher in Britain than in the United States." Here again, the evidence is selectively presented. A British full-price CD averages around £12, compared with £9 in America. But our prices are the *lowest* in the EC. The average in Germany is about £13; in France £15; in Ireland £17. And in Japan the price is even higher. Anyone who has watched a Japanese tourist in Tower Records at Piccadilly Circus buying up whole shelves of CDs will be richly amused by the suggestion that we should lower our prices.

There is certainly a valid free-market argument for allowing "parallel imports" — in other words, for relaxing the copyright legislation which stops anyone importing CDs without the original recording company's consent. This, however, would not in itself guarantee cheaper prices.

Kaufman's camp argues that if CD prices are forced down, the market will be substantially broadened, and sales will go up. But they are going up anyway: up by 18 per cent last year despite the recession, according to the stockbroker Hoare Govett, and expected to go up by 12 per cent in 1993. Little evidence here that we are talking about a product which the public believes is too highly priced.

The simple fact is that CDs are sold everywhere in the world at precisely the price which the local market will stand. They are luxury items. If you think they are too expensive, don't buy them. But please don't encourage the meddling fingers of government into yet another area of human creativity. Is Britain so problem-free that our MPs have nothing better to do than fret about the price of a middle-class luxury?

The music business is generally thriving, both commercially and artistically. It employs a lot of people. It stands on its own feet. Unlike the publishing industry, it pays a lot of VAT. Unlike our lamentable film industry, it never whinges about getting no subsidy from the taxpayer. Why do the British always knock a success story?

Putting the world to rights

Failures of understanding can have violent repercussions: so let this be a lesson



The Battle of Bunker Hill, by John Trumbull, from the first war between Britain and the United States

"US fears Suez-like rift with allies on Bosnia. Most bitter postwar split in Nato alliance" — headline in The Times, *May 1993.*

So began the last and saddest war of the 20th century, the Anglo-American conflict of 1995. Few saw the signs of danger, back during the Bosnian crisis. The old Nato glue was dissolving. Arguments broke out over Gatt and the role of the United Nations. Tit-for-tat sanctions were imposed upon British and American goods. As in Argentina and Iraq, the unimaginable happened. While diplomacy slept, allies became enemies. Britain and America were at war for the first time in 200 years.

Like all America's recent interventions, this one began with an incident inflated out of proportion by television. A British SAS patrol in Northern Ireland mistakenly ambushed a school party near Newry, believing it to be an IRA active service unit. Women and children died, under the nose of an American "fact-finding envoy" who happened to be in Belfast at the time. Camera crews were in attendance, hungry for grief.

The "massacre" — later described by *The Washington Post* as "genocidal" — coincided with a get-tough phase in Britain's Ulster policy. It electrified America's dormant Irish lobby, which found common cause with the new Moral Interventionists. There were anti-British marches in Boston and New York. Senator Joe Biden, strong challenger for the 1996 Democratic nomination, demanded that Britain get out of Ireland and told his rival, President Clinton, to "get it done". Europe, said Biden, had sunk into "timidity, self-delusion, hypocrisy and bigotry". He asked, "When will that wimp in the White House wake up?"

At first a beleaguered Mr Clinton wobbled. He assured a press conference of his "deep concern at, you know, what is going on over there". He called John Major and asked when withdrawal from Ulster might be possible — to be told, "When you get out of Texas". Eisenhower's statue in Grosvenor Square was daubed with green paint.

The New York Times, in a thundering editorial, wondered if "America any longer has the stomach to stand up for what is right in the world". Leading columnists William Safire and Anthony Lewis chided Clinton for "standing idly by while the innocent die" and taunted him with his 1992 election pledge to "intervene for peace in Northern Ireland". The president promised a Harvard graduation class that "America would defend any ethnic minority, whether oppressed by weak or strong, friend or foe, democrat or dictator".

The drift to war, once started, was swift. Both Clinton and Major were facing re-election and trailing in the polls. Neither dared back away. Two American servicemen were killed in a riot outside an airbase in Oxfordshire. All US personnel in Britain were put on alert and told to prepare to leave. British army strength in Ulster was doubled.

The president assured a group of Irish-American senators that "nothing is excluded and everything is on the table". When asked if he would arm the IRA to defend Catholic enclaves, he described his mind as "completely open". He only sought a level playing-field between Catholics and Protestants. Aides added that the Pentagon had detailed contingencies for mining Belfast Lough and bombing the Lisburn motorway. As a precaution, the carrier *USS Hillary* with 2,000 marines on board was diverted from the Baltic to the Irish Sea.

Simon Jenkins

In London, John Major found himself overwhelmed by a tide of patriotism. Public opinion, enraged by American criticism when British soldiers had been dying in Bosnia, was adamant against concession. Major's banning of a visit to Belfast by the American Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, pushed his popularity rating above that of Margaret Thatcher during the Falklands. The Kingston by-election saw a stunning Tory victory, the first at a by-election since 1989.

The final catalyst was Dublin. A shaky Irish coalition was facing bankruptcy after the collapse of the common agriculture policy. Secret diplomacy by Irish sympathisers in the White House negotiated leases for American bases at Donegal and Dundalk. The Dublin government abandoned its neutrality and agreed a rent of $500 million a year. Two days before the New Hampshire primary, television lights blazed as US marines poured ashore. Soldiers chosen for their Irish ancestry said they were there "to defend our kith and kin against the old enemy".

The war followed a now familiar pattern of external intervention. Ulster's sectarian leaders were instantly polarised. Villages throughout Northern Ireland were "cleansed" of any Catholic or Protestant minorities, a process aggravated when a visibly exhausted Lord Owen produced a map proposing "new cantonal boundaries". Catholic enclaves were flooded with American weapons. Clint Eastwood films were boycotted in Britain. Sociologists reported that after years of uncertainty "the British people have rediscovered under John Major a sense of national identity".

The conflict had little focus. The American marine commander complained that she had been given no war plan beyond "establishing a bridgehead" and liaising with the media. Norman Schwarzkopf appeared on television to say that "America is in Ireland to uphold justice and kick ass".

At first the war went badly for both sides. American peace-keeping patrols in Catholic enclaves were bogged down by heavy rain. Contacts with British troops and UDA irregulars caused many friendly-fire deaths. American entanglement with local drugs barons led to a series of mortar attacks on US bases. "We thought we were here to protect these people," said a confused marine after a mysterious incident in Ballyshannon.

In the north, extremism on both sides was strengthened by the war. So long as he held firm, John Major could do no wrong. The accidental shelling of Armagh Cathedral by the *USS New Jersey* — fire control mistook it for Aughnacloy police station — caused a wave of revulsion. Labour and Tory MPs signed a Commons motion pledging that Britain would stay in Northern Ireland "for a thousand years". Catholic refugees fled south over the border, escorted by embarrassed American troops.

The American press was the first to turn. *The Washington Post* accused Clinton of "aiding and abetting British ethnic cleansing". William Safire and Anthony Lewis wrote searing columns asking "Who got us into this mess?" and "How much longer can America police the world?". They recalled the happy days of the special relationship. The worst incident was a devastating car-bomb outside the American navy base at Killybegs. Intelligence reports laid the blame on an IRA splinter group recently cut out of the Strabane cocaine monopoly.

American public opinion changed fast. On ABC news, Peter Jennings announced that "Many Americans are asking how many more bodybags must come home before Mr Clinton sees sense?". The withdrawal was similar to that from Beirut in 1984: swift, ignominious and described by the White House as "a battle won for democracy and freedom". Almost a third of the Catholic population of Ulster were classified as refugees by a UN commissioner, though most returned home soon after the American departure. The Irish government requested $2 billion to restore the Donegal tourist industry. The British gave a historic buildings grant for Armagh Cathedral. Normality returned to Ulster.

And all because the allies fell out over Bosnia.

Odds on chaos

SCHOOL testing, unit fines ... the U-turns are coming thick and fast from the government in the wake of the Newbury and county council rebuffs. So much so that Britain's bookmakers are preparing to offer odds on the next sudden shift in government policy.

Strong favourite is an abrupt about-face in John Major's hitherto staunch support for his Chancellor. William Hill has just dropped its odds on Norman Lamont giving the next Budget, from 3-1 immediately after the Newbury by-election to even money yesterday. The favourite to replace him is Michael Howard (9-2); followed by Michael Portillo (5-1); Kenneth Clarke (6-1); John MacGregor (7-1) and Sir Norman Fowler (8-1).

But coming up fast on the rails is a referendum on the Maastricht treaty, with William Hill offering 10-1 it will happen by the end of the year and Ladbrokes 6-1. Further down the field, bookmakers are still calculating the odds on a rail privatisation being shunted into the sidings or a U-turn on VAT on domestic heating. "Shortening all the time" was all one bookie was prepared to divulge. Ladbrokes is also considering quoting odds on possible income-tax increases in the face of mounting borrowing problems.

The moves have been forced by demand from punters in the betting shops. "In the face of enquiries, we are considering the possibility of opening a book on the next government U-turn," says Graham Sharpe, a spokesman for William Hill. "But the difficulty is how exactly to define a U-turn." John Major, one supposes, would be the one to ask.



● *It's not easy being a new nation, as motorists in the Czech Republic and Slovakia are finding out. No sooner had they proudly stuck new "CR" and "SO" stickers to their Ladas, than they had to remove them again — after transport officials discovered that Croatia and Somalia had got there first. Not surprisingly, Czech drivers are sticking new "CZ" stickers on double quick.*

One big family

THERE is, at last, proof that Commander Timothy Laurence has royal connections other than those happily established through his marriage to the Princess Royal. Next month's issue of *Genealogists' Magazine* carries an article which chronicles his descent from Edward III, who was born at Windsor Castle in 1312 and later crowned as a "tall, well-built teenager".

DIARY

Laurence's descent from the king who ruled England 20 generations ago goes through Edward's fourth son John of Gaunt and then through the lines of the Beauforts, Percys and Spencers (no, not the Princess of Wales's ancestors).

Much has been made of Laurence's Jewish ancestry, as his direct male line goes back to Zaccaria Levy, born in Venice in 1751. But the royal link is established through his paternal grandmother.

David Williamson, a co-editor of *Debrett's Peerage*, was delighted by his findings for the magazine. But, perhaps disappointingly, he remarks that Laurence is not alone in enjoying royal forebears. "His ancestry is typical of middle-class English families. We can all dredge up a royal if we go back far enough," says Williamson.

Crossbenchers

IF IT WERE the case that the Palace of Westminster's influence could be felt at all important events, then Sheffield Wednesday would surely be the more confident of the two teams in today's FA Cup. No fewer than five Labour MPs will be wearing Wednesday's white-and-blue at the Wembley match this afternoon.

Arsenal supporters will have to brace themselves for the sort of abuse usually reserved for members of the government. On Arsenal's opposition's benches will be Roy Hattersley, bedecked in rosettes; Clive Betts, MP for Sheffield, Attercliffe; Bill Michie, MP for Heeley; Joe Ashton MP for Bassetlaw; and Sheffield's very own David Blunkett, shadow health spokesman.

Arsenal, however, are not intimidated. "We're confident; we don't need them. Our local MP doesn't even turn up," says a spokesman. But there will be one notable absentee: Blunkett's guidedog, Offa, will be watching at home — barking on the Owls.

● *Bloomsbury, the publisher which paid first-time writer David Mason a £100,000 advance for his thriller about a plot to assassinate Saddam Hussein, has found recouping its investment a little on the slow side in the Middle East. Until yesterday that is, when Sifriat Ma'ariv, an Israeli book and newspaper publisher, bought the serialisation rights — for $2,500.*

Pussy galore

SIR Anthony Hopkins can sleep easy. The news that he is likely to play the villain in the next James Bond film, to be filmed this autumn, has been greeted warmly by Charles Gray, whose portrayal of Blofeld in *Diamonds are Forever* and *You Only Live Twice*, is considered the very apotheosis of evil by a whole generation of film-goers.

Gray, now 65, says "it would be impertinent to give Hopkins advice while the man's Oscar is still warm in his hand. There is really nothing to it — just be yourself. Donald Pleasence and Telly Savalas were themselves and so was I. I never found the acting very difficult. It was just a question of turning up on time and hoping to go home on time."



Gray has seen neither of Timothy Dalton's performances in the leading role, but retains a fondness for the films and particularly for the cats that would sit, purring on his lap while Blofeld plotted world domination. "I had three pussies. We had to have two stand-ins because the first pussy got awfully cross with me throwing her up in the air. I adored them all but I think they got rather fed up."

نقلاً عن الأصل

MAJOR AND SMITH

Both party leaders rely too much on patience

Two political antagonists stood up to speak yesterday, several hundred miles apart. For both men, this was a politically important occasion: for one, the struggle was to restore his short-term personal credibility; for the other, to restore the longer-term credibility of his party. Both John Major and John Smith rose to the challenge; but over both of them the smell of complacency still hangs.

The danger is the more obvious for Mr Smith. His reaction to the recent local election results — a swift assertion that Labour could have won a general election on its own — was ominous to those who believe that "one more heave" will not be enough to crack the Conservatives' electoral hegemony next time round. However dreadful the hole which the Major administration has dug, Labour cannot expect to win the next election by default. It did not do so in April 1992, despite the recession, and it will not do so in 1996 or 1997 unless it has by then become a party that the electorate can trust with power.

To win that reputation, Mr Smith must scotch the suspicion that a Labour government would be unduly influenced by the trade unions. Nobody expects Labour not to be sympathetic to them, just as America's Democrats are. Yet while they accept funding from trade unions, they do not give them the power to elect their presidential or congressional candidates or to determine the policy of the party. When Mr Smith stood for the leadership, a contest in which 40 per cent of the votes were wielded by unions, one of his few promises was a move to one-member-one-vote (OMOV) in party elections and selections.

So far he has stood by this intention, despite attempts by unions to force him to back down. Yesterday, addressing the Fire Brigades Union conference in Bridlington, he reiterated that OMOV should be "the guiding principle of our party democracy". He intends to put this to the vote at this autumn's party conference. Judging by the growing union opposition, he may well be defeated. But he is right to stand firm, and union leaders would be foolish not to support him. Labour's membership has now proved itself both more moderate and more determined to stand up to activists of the far left. If anything, there is a greater danger, in Merseyside in particular, that union influence is being used to displace moderate candidates in favour of radicals.

The power that Mr Smith is asking the unions to give up is not an ancient one. Until 1981, the unions had no say in the election of the leader. The block vote, which was set up in Labour's original constitution, was then far more fragmented. No union wielded more than 10 per cent of the vote; now a mere handful can control conference decisions. It is their continued insistence on running the Labour party that keeps it out of office. And in opposition, Labour can do nothing to further the cause of their members. Mr Smith has to win this fight.

Mr Major was talking of fighting yesterday, too, in his address to Scottish Conservatives. It was a snappy speech in the Thatcher style, though unlike her, he could not affect to deliver it from a position of strength. He admitted that the recent election results were worse even than he had expected. But he seemed all too willing to rely on the ebb and flow of political tides over the next four years to sweep the Tories back to victory.

It was promising to hear him accept that "it is when the Conservative party is on the side of reform that we win". Yet the "red meat" that was promised does not seem to be on the table today. There is plenty still for the government to do. Radical reforms such as the raising of the pension age for women, the introduction of workfare, a recasting of the welfare state: none of these was mentioned. New measures were restricted to tinkering with jail sentences for dangerous drivers.

The prime minister warned that, with a small Commons majority, "we may have to tack a little here, manoeuvre a little there." This is all too reminiscent of the past year. What a small majority demands is acute sensitivity to the feelings of MPs combined with the leadership skills to convince them that unpopular policies are often right.

Mr Major will redeem himself only if he now commits Britain to a period of quiet, confident and competent government. His actions will prove his merit; patient endurance will not be enough.

A GOOD MEETING

Mr Major deserves credit for seeing Salman Rushdie

During this long week of political troubles John Major found the time to fit in an act of useful statesmanship, a meeting between himself and Salman Rushdie which exemplified the best qualities in the prime minister. The watchwords were balance and prudence. The talks were well publicised and accompanied by a strong statement by Mr Major in support of the novelist. But they were held in private away from the cameras. There were no provocative images of Mr Rushdie shaking hands with the prime minister to inflame the Tehran mob. Yet the government has sent a firm message to Iran's rulers that the four-year-old *fatwa* on the author of *The Satanic Verses* is unacceptable.

This careful strategy has vexed some British politicians and diplomats almost as much as the Iranian government. According to Sir Edward Heath, support for "that wretched book" will cripple trade with Iran, fears echoed by the Britain-Iran All-Party Parliamentary Group.

Good relations cannot, however, be maintained between Britain and a régime that has condemned a British citizen to death for writing a work of fiction. As a signatory of the universal declaration of human rights, Iran expects to be treated as a civilised nation rather than a trading-post marooned in the middle ages. Mr Major is right that the government has "a duty to defend fully the rights of a citizen threatened in this way".

Mr Rushdie has recently toured the chancelleries of the world to mount diplomatic pressure on his oppressors. The German Bundestag has warned that it will impose sanctions on Iran if harm befalls the novelist, who now hopes for a meeting with President Clinton. Equivocation is giving way to resolute support in the West for Mr Rushdie and the defence of free speech.

The novelist's decision to venture into the open has been widely criticised as a foolish act of provocation. Yet long periods of silence, effusive apologies and even the novelist's temporary conversion to Islam have made little difference to Iran's leaders, who recently renewed the *fatwa*. At least one assassination squad has been thwarted by Special Branch. One translator of *The Satanic Verses* has been murdered and another brutally attacked. As recently as February, Dr Kalim Siddiqui, head of the so-called "Muslim Parliament", threatened on a radio programme to "break every bone" in Mr Rushdie's body. Self-censorship by the Foreign Office and the novelist has not worked; the *fatwa* cannot be appeased out of existence.

As Mr Rushdie said after his meeting, things may get worse before they get better. This week's meeting will make the reform of the blasphemy law and the case for Muslim schools all the more pressing. Mr Major will have to demonstrate both that support for Mr Rushdie is necessary in a free society and that the sensitivities of Muslims in Britain have not been forgotten. The auguries look better than for some time.

ESSENCE OF THE GAME

The football season has defied its prophets of gloom

Today's FA Cup Final at Wembley ends a season of English football that has defied, in the most spirited way, the dire predictions that the new premier league would tear apart the fabric of sporting heritage. The move towards modern stadiums has proved nothing like the profound or alarming change that people feared. The supposed trauma of obliging people to sit in safety, rather than stand in peril, has benefited the sport as much as the advent of satellite television. The resilience of the bond between the English and their national game has apparently not been weakened.

The Cup Final will, as usual, be screened live to more people in more countries than any other single English event bar perhaps the Grand National. The health of the game has improved now that the madness of hooliganism, the real threat, has been removed by effective policing. With this there is evidence of spectators coming back in numbers. Indeed, during the months when half of Britain's century-old stadiums have undergone conversion for the modern age, it is the capacities at grounds that have been stretched, not the capacity of the old game to uplift the spirit in jobless times.

The league championship provided genuine excitement between two of the traditional giants, Manchester United finally outlasted Aston Villa. Both played admirable football: despite all the loud prophecies, it is simply not true that Englishmen have forgotten how to play their game. Manchester United not only achieved its first championship in 26 years, but did so in thrilling style. They employed a dash of French spice in Eric Cantona, the *enfant terrible* of his own country, who in successive seasons has now won championship medals with Leeds and Manchester United. His rapport with Ryan Giggs has sparked off the raw excitement of seeing a genuine teenage prodigy in the mould of George Best.

While United converted its wealth and its worldwide pulling power into glory, a third club, Norwich City, proved that even small country cousins committed to good football and good husbandry can prosper on the new playground. This vibrancy has communicated itself to some old, traditional hotbeds: north of the border Rangers gave a spirited run in Europe. Newcastle United enjoyed a rampant resurgence, and Stoke City, the old playground of Sir Stanley Matthews, was also promoted. So much for those who predicted that the rump of the old league was being abandoned to die. The boardrooms may ring with charge and countercharge, as they always have. Football itself has moved out of the dark ages and into the era of high commerce with its essence unimpaired.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Policy-making that takes note of what the people want

From Mr Simon James

Sir, It is now clear that where government policy on major issues such as education, criminal justice, the coal industry and the ERM moves too far from that which is acceptable it can be changed by the weight of public opinion, or the course of events, or both.

The concern must remain that other important issues of public concern remain unmodified only because they have not yet been able to mobilise the veto of national opinion. Is there not a case for examining more thoroughly possible improvements to the way this country is administered in more routine matters? Currently, policy-making appears to be far removed from what the people want.

Yours sincerely,
SIMON JAMES,
Exeter University,
Department of Economics,
Amory Building, Rennes Drive,
Exeter, Devon.
May 14.

From Mr Jonathan Goldberg, QC

Sir, The home secretary now announces (report, May 14) the early abolition of unit fines alongside the other central plank of the discredited Criminal Justice Act of 1991 whereby the courts are unable to pay regard to a criminal's previous convictions when sentencing him.

Is one now entitled to ask whether any heads will roll, whether any promotion will be denied, whether any normal consequences in any other field of life will result at all to the asinine civil servants in the Home Office, which thought up this abysmal piece of legislation and then steam-rollered it through a complacent Parliament in the first place?

Yours sincerely,
JONATHAN GOLDBERG,
5 King's Bench Walk, Temple, EC4.
May 14.

From Sir Peter Hordern, MP for Horsham (Conservative)

Sir, Both your leading and some of your feature articles lately seem to be obsessed with the need to appease the grumblers at the bar of the Garrick Club and the "Bentley-drivers against Maastricht" Association. If you had your way, it seems, interest rates would be halved tomorrow, sterling allowed to fall where it will and Maastricht abandoned. There is a touching simplicity about it all.

There is no doubt that the Conservative party is unpopular. That is because we had double-digit inflation in 1990 and a surge in credit over which Baroness Thatcher presided as First Lord of the Treasury, which has taken a great deal of trouble and hardship to correct. There is no easy or popular way to bring down inflation to 3 per cent, and both the prime minister and the Chancellor are to be congratulated on succeeding where their predecessors failed.

What makes it worse, in the eyes of the chattering classes, is that John Major succeeded Baroness Thatcher without having attended either Oxford or Cambridge, won a general election against the pollsters and all informed opinion, gets on well with foreigners, consults his cabinet colleagues from time to time and has had the temerity to bring down inflation and interest rates to their lowest levels for many years, forming the basis for a sustained recovery in the process. All this without the support and against the advice of *The Times*.

Yours faithfully,
PETER HORDERN,
House of Commons.
May 12.

From Mr A. G. Hebbron

Sir, The decision to impose VAT on domestic fuel has disclosed a basic principle of the government's taxation policy. I suggested to a Conservative MP that instead of imposing this tax, which would cause hardship to many of the poorer electors, it would be better to raise the required revenue by higher taxes on the wealthy.

His reply was that in effect this might cause a "brain drain". I take this to mean that it is better to impose hardship on the poor, who can't run away, than to ask the rich, who may, to pay what they can surely afford.

Yours faithfully,
A. G. HEBBRON,
29 Fairacres, Ruislip, Middlesex.

Team sports and machismo cult

From Mr Jonathan Forbes Watson

Sir, In identifying a causal link between team sports and the cult of machismo Richard Ryder (Body and Mind, May 11) draws a bizarre and illogical conclusion.

Organised team sports encourage self-control, self-confidence, determination, leadership, endurance and team spirit. These qualities are the antithesis of the aimless and self-centred aggression that characterises the hollow machismo of T-shirted louts.

What "violence" there is on the field is within established rules and contributes to the achievement of clearly defined goals. Injuries are the product of misadventure, not assault.

Mr Ryder's attack on our educational system and our soldiery is thus misdirected. It is precisely through structured team sports that our schools attempt to turn our children into valuable and motivated members of society, and it is through sport and adventure training that the army develops our young men into fair and disciplined fighters.

The product is not mindless macho men with nothing constructive to do, but men (and women) with purpose and commitment and, perhaps most important, pride in themselves and their country.

Those who feel the need to prove their manhood through breaking the law are those whose self-respect has not been strengthened by sporting achievement and whose aggression has not been harnessed for worthwhile ends. These are the boys that have yet to be turned into men.

Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN WATSON,
84 The Keep, King's Road,
Kingston upon Thames, Surrey.
May 11.

From Mr J. A. Kilby

Sir, Richard Ryder is right to query the use of the term "physical education" for what happens in schools. At school I took part in rugby, cross-country running, cricket and athletics. I gave all these up the minute I left. I have since had to teach myself golf, squash and tennis.

Educating children how to keep fit for the rest of their lives and teaching skills that they will actually use after they have left school would surely be a better use of time and resources. It would also prevent the countless hours of misery for many, if not most, children for whom team games are at best an unpleasant chore.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN KILBY,
38 St Gerards Close, SW4.
May 11.

From Mrs Frances-Anne King

Sir, As the mother of three sons I feel well qualified to dispute Richard Ryder's article. In my experience most young men have an abundance of physical energy that needs to be channelled: where better than the sportsfield, where team spirit instils a salutary lesson for life?

The "T-shirted louts, covered with tattoos, reeking of machismo" are precisely those not participating in, but obviously in need of, team sports.

Yours faithfully,
FRANCES-ANNE KING,
149 Church Road, Combe Down,
Bath, Avon.
May 12.

The road to ruin?

From Mr R. N. D. Petter

Sir, I am surprised that Sir Ronald Millar describes the then Sir Geoffrey Howe's speech in the House of Commons on November 13, 1990, as "superb", "of the highest class", of "meticulous artistry" ("The political speech as a lethal weapon", May 10). As a layman watching it, it seemed to me the petulant, vindictive and treacherous outpourings of a small-minded man. I immediately terminated my membership of the party he represented.

Yours faithfully,
R. N. D. PETTER,
Bruins, 2 Brownswood Road,
Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire.
May 10.

From Mr G. F. B. Robinson

Sir, Mrs Thatcher may well have been all sweetness and light towards her immediate entourage as suggested by Sir Ronald Millar in his heroine-worshipping memoirs, but among considerable sections of the general public, particularly the disadvantaged, she was rated Public Enemy Number One, and with good reason.

Yours faithfully,
G. F. B. ROBINSON,
11 St Francis Court,
20 Stornoway Road,
Southend on Sea, Essex.
May 10.

Taking a stand

From Mr J. H. Ling

Sir, News that the prime minister afforded Mr Salman Rushdie a 30-minute interview (report, May 12) coincided with the arrival from the Department of Trade and Industry of allocation of stand space at the October international trade fair in Tehran. This will cost my company £502 a square metre.

Should I take it, or join the prime minister on the moral high ground, which presumably is free?

Yours faithfully,
J. H. LING,
The Reddings, Old Colwall,
Malvern, Worcestershire.
May 13.

Proper precepts

From Mrs Ann Nurse

Sir, The Princess of Wales is too modest in her view that television is responsible for the breakdown of family life (report, May 11, later editions). Thousands of women copy her hairstyle, her mode of dress and the names of her children: she is one of our great role models. It need be no surprise if they emulate her way of marriage. ("If it is OK for the Princess of Wales to separate, then it is OK for us.")

I have great sympathy for the royal family but I feel they would at present be wise to steer clear of advising us on the breakdown of family life.

Yours sincerely,
ANN NURSE,
79 Sydenham Hill, SE26.
May 12.

The royal specs

From Mrs Margaret Puxon, QC

Sir, Since ready-to-wear reading spectacles cost as little as £2.99 at most pharmacists, could not Her Majesty's attendants — or even Prince Philip — carry a spare pair to avoid the embarrassing situation portrayed on your front page today?

The expenditure would no doubt attract higher-rate tax relief.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET PUXON,
Francis Taylor Building,
Temple, EC4.
May 12.

Swan Hunter lesson for the nation

From Mr Cecil Fudge

Sir, Now that receivers have been called in to Swan Hunter (report, May 14) I think it is important to be reminded of some of the things that the shipyard set out to do in order to reach global standards of competitiveness.

Two years ago, during the course of a research project for the Institute of Personnel Management, I was able to see what the Swan Hunter chairman meant when he announced in 1991 that training was to be a major component "in harnessing technology to maintain our competitive edge".

A substantial education and development programme embraced all levels of management and the workforce, and the trade unions and the company agreed a far-reaching scheme which linked pay and conditions to important human-resource objectives, including a strong emphasis on career opportunities.

Under what was called cost-effective quality training, pay would reflect achievement of defined skills. Time-served apprenticeship was replaced by a standards-based system linked to vocational qualifications.

The old restrictive recruitment system was replaced by open arrangements irrespective of age and sex. The then chairman of the trade union side said that the new scheme was the only way forward in the 1990s.

An enormous amount of time and intellectual energy and commitment was invested in this culture-change programme by a great many people. Will anyone care any more or want to repeat the exercise?

Is there not a national interest dimension to all of this: a requirement on the part of government to acknowledge that what was done at Swan Hunter still needs to be done elsewhere? Would it not be cost-effective for the government to set up a supportive educational development programme specifically for the shipyard workforce, to keep the ideas alive and retain some part at least of the career motivations of individual workers?

Yours faithfully,
C. FUDGE (Manpower consultant),
Bargate Cottage, Churt Road,
Churt, Farnham, Surrey.

An arduous climb

From Mr James Robertson

Sir, I was interested in your recent correspondent's account of his ascent of the Great Pyramid (letter, April 30), having myself climbed it with my wife in the distant past.

Your correspondent was braver than we were, in making the climb in the dark. We did it in the heat of the day on September 16, 1944. We were on our honeymoon — a much shortened one because of the exigencies of war.

Baedeker (1929 edition) advised would-be climbers to obtain local help, with "two or three of the Beduin ... one holding each hand and the third pushing behind ..."

Were it not now illegal, my wife and I might have considered repeating the climb next year, to celebrate our golden wedding. We would probably have needed the help of at least three of Baedeker's "Beduin".

Yours sincerely,
JAMES ROBERTSON,
Oldhamstocks House,
Cockburnspath, Berwickshire.

From Mr A. F. Kersting

Sir, While in the services in Egypt from 1942 to 1946 I climbed the Great Pyramid of Cheops several times. My best time from the base to the top and back was 19 minutes. I last made the ascent on a return visit in 1961.

The ascent of the adjoining pyramid of Cephren is a very different



proposition as the top 100ft or so are still covered with the original smooth stone casing, and such was the skill of the Ancient Egyptian workmen that there are few footholds or handholds. It was said that there was a book at the top inscribed with the names of the Cephren Climbers' Club but I was never able to add mine.

The two pyramids at Dashour to the south are easily climbed and give good views over the desert and Nile valley. The Meidum pyramid in the Fayoum presents difficulties owing to its unusual shape: I made one ascent, aided by a rope shot over by a rocket.

Yours faithfully,
A. F. KERSTING,
37 Frewin Road,
Wandsworth Common, SW18.
May 5.

Conflict in Bosnia

From Lord Vernon

Sir, You rightly stress (leading article, "A whiff of Suez", May 11) the extreme dangers to the future of Nato and to our relationship with America if we cannot come to terms with United States policy over Bosnia.

Let us be under no illusion. If we fail them in this instance, due to the excessive caution of the Foreign Office, we can hardly expect their support in the future when our own vital interests are concerned. Any dangers resulting from air strikes and from arming the Bosnian Muslims are far outweighed by the consequences of such a serious rift in the Western Alliance.

Yours faithfully,
VERNON,
Sudbury House,
Sudbury, Derbyshire.

From Air Vice Marshal A. D. Frank

Sir, Rosemary Righter states ("Vance-Owen will not work without force", May 11) that "an alliance equipped to fend off the communist threat undoubtedly has the capacity to compel Bosnia's warlords to fall in with the Vance-Owen plan". Recently Roy Hattersley commented on television to the effect that what the air forces achieved in the Gulf they can achieve in Bosnia.

It is time that these amateur strategists stopped deceiving themselves before they start to deceive others. The tasks of deterring the Warsaw Pact powers and of driving the Iraqi army out of Kuwait bear not the remotest resemblance to that of suppressing guerrillas in Bosnia. No two wars are alike but the closest recent analogies lie in Vietnam and Afghanistan and it can hardly be claimed that foreign intervention improved the lot of the inhabitants of these unfortunate countries.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN FRANK,
Roundway House, Devizes, Wiltshire.

Weekend Money letters, page 28

In waltz time

From Mr Neil Young

Sir, I was interested to read Stephen Pettitt's review (May 4) of the Berlin Philharmonic's May Day Europa Concert. The concert took place at the early hour of 10.30am, and Mr Pettitt mentioned that the orchestra "roused me out of my usual Saturday morning torpor". Obviously not enough for him to recognise the encore, which was from Tchaikovsky's ballet, *The Nutcracker*, and not by Strauss.

This mistake can further be excused by Mr Pettitt's annoyance both at the child chattering and eating crisps throughout the first piece and at the refusal of British television to cover this event — two fine illustrations to the Berlin players of the esteem in which the British hold music.

Yours faithfully,
NEIL YOUNG,
116 Stanwell Road,
Ashford, Middlesex.

Sex discrimination

From Dr John W. Maunder

Sir, Your excellent article warning of malaria (May 13) was accompanied by a picture captioned "Face of a killer". Since only female mosquitoes bite, they alone transmit disease. Your picture, however, was clearly that of a male, an innocent bystander. Truly in this case the female of the species is more deadly than the male.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN W. MAUNDER
(Director),
Medical Entomology Centre,
Cambridge University,
Cambridge Road, Fulbourn,
Cambridge.
May 14.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 14: The Prince Edward this afternoon arrived at Heathrow Airport, London, from Spain.
Lieutenant-Colonel Sean O'Dwyer and Mr Christopher Lloyd were in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
May 14: The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, today visited the Royal Dragoon Guards on the occasion of the 250th anniversary of the Battle of Dettingen, Paderborn, Germany.
Captain John Warburton-Lee was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
May 14: The Duke of Kent, President, the Imperial War Museum, this morning visited the American Air Museum in Great Britain at Royal Air Force Duxford, Cambridgeshire.
Commander Roger Walker, RN, was in attendance.
The Duke of Kent, Member, the Honourable Artillery Company, this evening dined with the Mess Club at Armoury House, London EC1.
Captain the Honourable Tom Coke was in attendance.

Royal engagements

TODAY: Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester will attend the 50th and final anniversary memorial service of the 355th Fighter Group Association (USAAF) at Steeple Morden Airfield, Cambridgeshire, at 11.00.
The Duke of Kent, as President of the Football Association, will attend the Football Association's challenge cup final at Wembley Stadium at 12.30.
The Duchess of Kent will attend the Football Association's challenge cup final at Wembley Stadium at 2.45.

Dinners

Lord High Commissioner
Lord Macfarlane of Bearsden, Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and Lady Macfarlane yesterday arrived in Edinburgh to take up residence at the Palace of Holyroodhouse and last night entertained the following at dinner:
The Lord Provost of Edinburgh and Mrs Irons, the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland and Mrs Wylie, the Speaker, Sir David and Lady Butler, Sir Nicholas and Lady Goodison, Sir Duncan and Lady McDonald, Miss Valerie Butler, Mr and Mrs Crispin Davis, Mr and Mrs Brian Ivory, Mr and Mrs Liam Kane, Mr and Mrs Bruce Patrullo and Mr and Mrs Oliver Russell.

Launderers' Company
Mr Melvyn F.H. Rogers, Master of the Launderers' Company, assisted by Mr J. Anthony Dunn, Deputy Warden, Mr James G. Crisp, Senior Warden, and Mr Brian St John Mowbray, Renter Warden, presided at a dinner and concert held last night at Launderers' Hall. Alderman Sir Brian Jenkins, Mr Robert Salter and Mr Brian Goodliffe also spoke.

International Law Association
Lord Slynn of Hadley, Chairman of the Executive Council of the International Law Association, presided at a council dinner held last night at the Royal Over-Seas League.

Latest wills

Mr David Laurence **Bird**, of Kew, Surrey, the actor, left estate valued at £140,009 net.
Mr John Willoughby **Pownall-Gray**, of Laverstock, Salisbury, Wiltshire — Willoughby Gray, the actor — left estate valued at £136,713 net.
Mr Reginald Ernest **Cull**, of Hertford, in his 1987 will described as "retired solicitor's clerk", left estate valued at £1,913,240 net.
He left £70,000 and certain properties to personal legatees, and £30,000, in memory of his family, and 1/4 of the residue to All Saints Church, Hertford, and 1/4 of the residue each to Hertford County Hospital, "the Society for the Blind" and "the Society for Cancer Research".

Service dinners

HAC
The Duke of Kent was the guest of honour at a dinner of the Honourable Artillery Company Mess Club held last night at Armoury House. Major B.C. Bicknell, president, was in the chair. Major P.C. Jones and Mrs B.C. Bicknell also spoke.

Ordnance Board
Mr M.J.V. Bell, Deputy Under-Secretary of State for Defence Procurement, was the principal guest at the annual dinner of the Ordnance Board Officers' Mess held last night at Deepcut. Major-General C.R.S. Notley, president of the board, presided.

The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders
Major-General D.P. Thomson *presided at a dinner of The Argyll* and Sutherland Highlanders Dinner Club held last night at Stirling Castle. Lieutenant-General R.J. Ross, Commandant General Royal Marines, was the guest.

4th Parachute Brigade Group
General Sir John Hackett presided at the annual dinner of the 4th Parachute Brigade (1943/4) Officers' Dinner Club held last night at the Army and Navy Club. General Sir Frank King and Major-General Philip Tower were among the guests.

The Queen's Flight Association
Air Commodore the Hon T.C. Elworthy, Captain of The Queen's Flight, presided at the annual dinner of The Queen's Flight Association held last night at RAF Benson. Wing Commander Tom Bussey was the guest of honour.

Service luncheons

The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment
Officers of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment (Queen's and Royal Hampshires) held a luncheon yesterday in Canterbury to mark the Battle of Albuhera 1811, the first since the amalgamation of the regiments last year.

22nd (Cheshire) Regiment
Brigadier A.J. MacG. Percival, Colonel of the 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment, presided at luncheon held yesterday in London.

University news

Kent
Promotions
Dr Michael Fairhurst, Reader in Electronics, to be Professor of Computer Vision from January 1, 1993.
Dr Michael Sheringham, Senior Lecturer in the School of European and Modern Languages, to be Professor of French Literature from January 1, 1993.



Top flight: Squadron Leader Chris Topham of the RAF stands in front of a Stealth fighter-bomber he has been flying in America while on an exchange programme with the US Air Force. The plane is famed for being undetectable to radar

Weekend birthdays

Zara Phillips is 12 today.
TODAY: Professor Sir James Baddiley, biochemist, 75; Sir Ralph Bateman, former president, CBI, 83; Sir William Batty, former chairman, Ford Motor Company, 80; Mr D.M. Boston, director, Horniman Museum, 62; Miss Eugenia Charles, Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Dominica, 74; Lord Darling, 74; Mr Ted Dexter, chairman, England committee, TCCB, 58; Mr R.A. Hough, writer, 71; Mr John Lanchbery, ballet composer, 70; Lord McDonald, 77; Sir Frederick Mason, diplomat, 80; Professor P.A. Reynolds, former vice-chancellor, Lancaster University, 73; Mr Anthony Shaffer and Mr Peter Shaffer, playwrights, 67; Mr Ralph Steadman, cartoonist and illustrator, 57; Professor Sir Eric Stroud, paediatrician, 69; Sir David Trippier, former MP, 47; the Earl of Warwick, 59.
TOMORROW: Canon Reginald Askew, dean, King's College London, 65; Mrs Rosie Barnes, former MP, 47; Sir Colin Cole, former Garter Principal King of Arms, 71; Mr Don Concannon, former MP, 63; Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman, TSB Group, 59; Mr Roy Hudd, comedian, 57; Sir Dawda Jawara, President of The Gambia, 69; Mr Geraint Jones, organist, 76; Major-General Sir Desmond Langley, 63; Professor Peter Levi, poet and archaeologist, 62; Professor K.O. Morgan, principal, University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, 59; Professor Gareth Roberts, vice-chancellor, Sheffield University, 53; the Right Rev Kenneth Skelton, former Bishop of Lichfield, 75; Mr John Walford, former president, Solicitors' Disciplinary Tribunal, 66; General Sir Antony Walker, 59; Sir Charles Wilson, former principal and vice-chancellor, Glasgow University, 84; Sir Russell Wood, former Deputy Treasurer to The Queen, 71.

Anniversaries

Today
BIRTHS: Klemens Metternich, statesman, Coblenz, Germany, 1773; Pierre Curie, physicist, Nobel laureate 1903, Paris, 1859; Arthur Schnitzler, dramatist, Vienna, 1862; Edwin Muir, poet and critic, Deerness, Orkney, 1887; James Mason, actor, Huddersfield, 1909.
DEATHS: Alexander Cunningham, historian, London, 1737; Richard Wilson, landscape painter, Llanberis, 1782; Edmund Kean, actor, London, 1833; Daniel O'Connell, "the Liberator", Genoa, 1847; Emily Dickinson, poet, Amherst, Massachusetts, 1886; Philip Snowden, Viscount Snowden, Chancellor of the Exchequer 1924 and 1929-31, Tilford, Surrey, 1937; Sir Robert Menzies, prime minister of Australia 1939-41 and 1949-66, Melbourne, 1978; Rita Hayworth, film actress, New York, 1987.
The first package holiday arranged by Thomas Cook set off for Paris, 1861. The first H-bomb was dropped on Christmas Island in the Indian Ocean, 1957.

Tomorrow
BIRTHS: Sir Dudley North, financier, London, 1641; John Sell Cotman, landscape painter, Norwich, 1782; Richard Tauber, tenor, Linz, 1892; Henry Fonda, actor, Grand Island, Nebraska, 1905; Woody Herman, musician, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1913; Liberace, pianist, West Allis, Wisconsin, 1919.
DEATHS: Pietro da Cortona, painter and architect, Rome, 1669; Charles Perrault, collector of fairy stories, Paris, 1703; Daniel Solander, botanist, London, 1782; Sir Edmund Gosse, critic, London, 1928; William Pember Reeves, New Zealand statesman, London, 1932; Bronislaw Malinowski, anthropologist, New Haven, Connecticut, 1942.
The Soviet spacecraft *Venus 5* touched down on Venus, 1969.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr G.P.E. Craggs and Miss S. Neo Po-Lian
The engagement is announced between Gerard, eldest son of Dr David Craggs, of Iden, East Sussex, and Mrs Jane Craggs, of Cranbrook, Kent, and Sharon, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Allan Neo, of Singapore.

Mr H.G. Garway-Templeman and Mlle I.M. Arhanchiague
The engagement is announced between Hugh, only son of Major and Mrs Patrick Garway-Templeman, of West Meon, Hampshire, and Isabelle, third daughter of M and Mme Pierre Arhanchiague, of The 7e, Paris.

Mr T.W. House and Miss L.C.R. Williams
The engagement is announced between Timothy Wilfred, younger son of Mr and Mrs Adrian House, of London, SW3, and Lucy Camilla Ruth, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs Ronald Williams, of London, SW10.

Mr D.R. Woodall and Miss C.L. Sparkes
The engagement is announced between David Robert, elder son of Mr and Mrs Robert W. Woodall, of Horsell, Surrey, and Catherine Lucy, daughter of Professor and Mrs Brian A. Sparkes, of Highfield, Southampton.

Mr C.A. Plowden and Miss M.L. Phillips
The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr and Mrs A.R. Plowden, of Maidenhead, Berkshire, and Louise, daughter of Mr and Mrs M.L. Phillips, of Ludlow, Shropshire.

Mr R. Savage and Miss M. Jones
The engagement is announced between Roy Savage, of Wellington, New Zealand, and Marcia Jones, also of Wellington, New Zealand, formerly of Camelot Cottage, Bedfordshire.

Dr D.F. Spencer and Mrs R.H.M. Ashton-Hill
The engagement is announced between Dr David Spencer and Mrs Reina Ashton-Hill. The marriage will take place in Estepona, Spain, on May 22, 1993.

Marriage

Mr I. Halabi and Miss L.H. Harris
The marriage took place on April 29, at the Greek Orthodox Church of Bishara Abdali, Amman, Jordan, of Mr Issa Halabi, son of the late Mr Raouf Halabi, and of Mrs Halabi, to Miss Louisa Harris, daughter of Mr and Mrs Jonathan Harris.
A reception will be held in London later in the year.

Church news

The Very Rev David Stancliffe, Provost of Portsmouth, is to be Bishop of Salisbury, succeeding the Rt Rev John Austin Baker, who retires on October 31.
The Rt Rev David Farmbrough, Bishop of Bedford, diocese of St Albans, is to retire at the end of November.

Other appointments
The Rev Michael Bayley: to be part-time Associate Minister, Highfield, Trinity and St Mary's, Bramall Lane (Sheffield).
The Rev Rodney Bally, Team Vicar, in charge Billy Mill St Aidan, Cullercoats Team Ministry: to be Rector, Allendale w Whitfield (Newcastle).
The Rev Rex Buckley, Vicar, Barnton: to be Priest-in-charge, Bickerton, Bickley, Burwardsley and Harthill (Chester).
The Rev Robert Clifton, Rector, Culford, West Stow, Wordwell, Flempton, Hengrave and Lackford, and Rural Dean of Thingoe: to be Priest-in-charge, Fornham All Saints, Fornham St Martin and Timworth (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).

Abberley Hall, Worcester

Abberley Hall is holding an Old Boys' Day on June 26, 1993, and the school welcomes all those who left in 1987 or before. For details and invitation please contact: Michael Haggard, Abberley Hall, Worcester, WR6 6DD (0299 896275).

Sussex House, Chelsea

The Council of Management of Sussex House School announces the appointment of Mr N.P. Kaye, MA (Cantab), at present Deputy Headmaster, as Headmaster to succeed Mr J.H.E. Whittaker, who retires in September 1994 after twenty-five years at the School.

Church services tomorrow

Fifth Sunday after Easter

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 Sung Euch (Our Lady Undercroft); 9.30 M; 11 Sung Euch, Missa Ave Maris Stella (Victoria), Ego sum panis vivus (Esquivel), The Archdeacon; 3.15 E & Litany in Procession, Responses (Piccolo), Rubbra in A flat, Litany (Tallis in five parts); 6.30 Sermon & Compline, The Precentor.
CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 10.30 Sung Euch, Chorale (Jackson), Jackson in G, Prevent us, O Lord (Byrd), Toccata (Jackson), Canon Rex Chapman; 12 Border Regiment Service, Responses (Reading), My beloved spake (Hadley), Alla Marcia (Ireland), Rev Tony Whipp.
CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8 HC; 9.30 Parish Communion, Rev Jacqui Jones; 11.15 Festival Euch, Missa Brevis (Gabrieli), Canon David Knight; 6 Festival E, Sing we merrily (Elliott), Responses (Rose), Canticles (Coventry Service), O be joyful in the Lord (Britten), The Provost.
CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 Litany (St Erasmus Chapel); 8 HC; 10 Choral M, Benedicite (Sumsion in B flat), Canon Michael Rees; 11.30 Choral Euch, Jackson in G, O most merciful (Bullock); 3.30 Choral E, Responses (Aylewerd), Fourth Service (Batten), Amen (Naylor), Toccata in B minor (Gigout); 6.30 E, Canon Eric Cox.
DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.15 M, Boyce in C, Thou visitest the earth (Greene), Canon Pedley; 11.30 HC; The Litany in procession (Tallis), Darke in F, Canon Hodgson; 3.30 E, Darke in F, O gladsome light (Darke), Voluntary: Tuba Tune (Cocker).
ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 10.30 Sung Euch, Missa Brevis (Berkeley), Jubilate (Walton), Et resurrexit (Dalby), Organ: Canticle of the Son (Ridout), The Lord Bishop; 3.45 E, Preces (Lloyd), Chichester Service (Walton), Ad Dominum (Van Nuffel), Organ: Deuxième Fantaisie (Alain); 6.30 Christian Aid Service.
LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 Litany; 8 HC; 9.30 Sung Euch, Missa Brevis St Johannis de Deo (Haydn), Thou visitest the earth (Greene), The Dean; 11.15 M, Responses (Smith), Collegium regale (Howells), The Lord is my shepherd (Berkeley), Rev Philip Welsh; 12.30 HC; 2 617 Squadron 50th Anniversary Service, Rev Robin Turner; 3.45 E.
LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 Sung Euch, Missa Brevis (Berkeley), Lichfield Jubilate (Lloyd), Ave Jesu Christe (Philips), The Chancellor; 3.30 County of Stafford Youth and Community Service.
LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 Matins & Litany; 8 Holy Euch, Rev J F Redvers Harris; 9 Parish Euch, Rev J F Redvers Harris; 11 Sung Euch, Missa Brevis in B flat (Mozart), Creed (Shaw), O most merciful, O most bountiful God (Bullock), Canon in Residence; 12.15 Holy Euch (Lady Chapel); 3.30 Choral E, Sumsion in A, My beloved spake (Hadley); 6.30 Parish E & Sermon, Rev S P Kirk.
MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8.45 MP; 9 HC; 10.30 Sung Euch, Jackson in G, Let all mortal flesh keep silence (Bairstow), Canon Albert Radcliffe; 6.30 E, Ireland in F, Greater love (Ireland), The Dean.
SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 Euch; 11 Choral Euch, Missa Ecce ego Joannes (Palestrina), Faire is the heaven (Harris), O for a closer walk with God (Stanford), The Provost; 3 E, Stanford in A, Hail, gladdening light (Wood), Canon Roy White.
TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9 M, The Deacon; 10 Sung Euch, Call to remembrance (Farrant), Missa Aeterna Christi Munera (Palestrina), Alma Redemptoris (Palestrina), Voluntary: Prelude and Fugue in G minor (Buxtehude), The Deacon; 6 E, Responses (Sanders), Harris in A minor, Blessed City (Bairstow), Voluntary: Scherzetto (Whitlock), The Dean.
WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 10 M, Responses (Smith), Benedicity in B flat (Purcell), Oculi omnium (Wood), Canon Donald Gray; 11.15 Abbey Euch & Litany in Procession Missa Brevis (Leighton), Litany (Harvey), Rev Jonathan Goodall; 3 E, Howells in B minor, Die mit tränen säen (Schütz), Rev Kevin Seasoltz; 5.45 Recital by the Choir of Trondheim Cathedral; 6.30 ES, Rev Roger Holloway.
YORK MINSTER: 8 & 8.45 HC; 10 Sung Euch, Stanford in B flat, Tantum ergo (Duruflé), Canon Ronald Metcalfe; 11.30 M, Responses (Jackson), Collegium Regale (Howells); 4 E, Stanford in C, Hear my words, ye people (Parry), Canon Raymond Hockley.
ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 11 Choral Euch, Enge Bone (Tye), Oculi Omnium (Wood), Voluntary: Prelude and Fugue in D major (Buxtehude), Canon A C Roberts; 3.30 Choral E, Wood in D, Responses (Ferial), The Heavens are telling (Haydn), Duet Sonata (Wesley).
ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 6pm LM (Sat); 8, 10 (Children's Service), 6 LM; 11.30 HM, L'Hora Passa (Viadana), The heavens are telling (Haydn), Very Rev Canon James P Pannett.
ST GILES' CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, The Minister; 10 General Assembly Service, Greater Love (Ireland), Rt Rev James L Weatherhead; 11.30 HC, Missa brevis (Britten), The Minister; St Giles' at 6, Edinburgh University Renaissance Singers; 8 ES, Rev Dr J Philip Newell.
ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 M, Responses (Byrd), Te Deum & Jubilate (Boyce in C), Canon Michael Saward; 11.30 HC, Messe Solennelle in C sharp minor (Vierne), Most Glorious Lord of life (Harris); 3.15 E, The Gloucester Service (Howells), Rejoice in the Lamb (Britten), Voluntary: Toccata settima (Rossi), Rev Peter Broadbent; 5 Service for the Anglican/Orthodox Forum.
ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, Dundee: 8 HC; 9.40 Sung Communion; 11 Choral Euch, Phillips in C, Give ear O Lord (Weelkes), Rev Michael Turner; 6.30 Choral E, Blair in B minor, See the fair Chivalry (Ashfield), Mr Kenneth Chillis.
ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8 & 5.15 LM; 11 HM, Missa O quam gloriousum (Victoria), Awake the harp (Haydn), The Vicar; 6 E & B, The Fifth Service (Tomkins), Victimae Paschali (Byrd), Rev C L Geake.
ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 11 Rev John Cook; 6.30 Rev Stephen Wookey (with All Souls Orchestra)
AMERICAN CHURCH IN LONDON, Tottenham Court Rd, W1: 9.45 Sunday School; 11 Worship, Rev James Schmidt.
THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11 Missa O regem coeli (Palestrina), Ecce sacerdos magnus (Vittoria), Hear the voice and prayer (Tallis).
CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8 HC; 10 Children's Service; 11 M, Organ: Felix namque I (Tallis), Rev Stephen Green; 12 HC; 6 Choral E, Southampton University Chamber Choir.
CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15 & 6.30 Rev Stanley Hood.
FARM STREET, W1: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 12.15 Fr William Pearsall, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 HM, Recordare (De Klerk), Missa Cace (Morales), Ave Maria (Vittoria), O Maria Mater (Crivelli).
HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, SW7: 9 HC, Mr Michael Coates; 11 Informal Service (Creche and Children's Service), Mr Jeremy Jennings; 6.30 Informal Service, Rev Nicholas Gumbel.
THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, Missa Ut, re, mi, fa, sol, la (Palestrina), Victimae paschali (Byrd), 12.30, 4.30, 7; 3.30 V & B, Surrexit pastor bonus (Victoria).
WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 9.45 HC; 11 MS, Rev Paul Hulme.
WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11 & 6.30 Rev Dr R John Tudor.
ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 Choral HC, Rev Dr Johann Schneider; 7 Bach Vespers, Cantata 86 Wahrlich, wahrlich, ich sage euch (Bach), Motet Sehet, welch eine Liebe (Bach), Concerto in G for violin and strings (Vivaldi), Rev Tom Bruch, UK Council for Overseas Student Affairs.
ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC; 11 M, Responses (Morley), Short Service (Weelkes), O Lord, look down from Heaven (Wattishill), Rev Robert Gillies; 6.30 Choral Euch, Short Communion Service (Gibbons), O Lord, increase my faith (Gibbons), The Rector.
ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Choral M & Euch, Responses (Leighton), Jubilate (Boyce in A), Coronation gloria (Stanford), Set me as a seal (Walton), Canon John Oates.
ST CLEMENT DANES: 11 Choral Euch, Missa Brevis (Leighton), Cantique de Jean Racine (Fauré).
ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 Sung Euch, Short Service (Batten), Thus sings the heavenly choir (Amner), Rev G D Watkins.
ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8 & 12.15 HC; 10.30 Sung Euch, Misa de Angelus, O sing unto the Lord (Pilsell), Voluntary: Toccata (Pott), Rev Niall Weir; 6.30 E, But we with our dreaming (Elgar), Rev Sheila Watson.
ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC; 9.45 The Euch, Rev Margaret Treemer; 11.30 Visitors to London Service, The Vicar; 12.30 HC; 2.45 Chinese Service, Rev Joyce Bennett; 5 Choral E; 6.30 ES, Rev John Pridmore.
ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, Primrose Hill: 8 HC; 10.30 Parish Euch, Missa Brevis (Gabrieli), with a voice of singing (Shaw), Mr James Broad, Christian Aid.
ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Mass for five voices (Byrd), Ascendo ad Patrem (Palestrina), Dr Tony Martin; 6.30 EP.
ST MICHAEL'S, Cornhill, EC3: 11 Choral Euch, Missa Brevis (Mozart), Os justi meditabitur sapientiam (Bruckner).
ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8 & 9 HC; 11 Solemn Euch, Missa Cantate (Shepherd), Now glad of heart be every one! (Drayton), Rev Neil Dawson.
ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 10 Family Euch; 11 Solemn Euch, Missa Osculetur Me (Lassus), Rev Fr Alan Chidwick.
ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 8 & 9 HC; 11 SM, Missa Brevis (Seiber), Salve Regina (Eben), O Sacrum Convivium (Messiaen), Fr Neil Cocking; 6 EP & Benediction.
CHAPEL ROYAL, St. James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, And I saw a new Heaven (Bainton), Canon G R Hall.
CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC; 11 M & Litany, Noble in B minor, Litany (Loosemore); 3.30 E, We wait for thy loving kindness (McKie), Dyson in D, The eyes of all (Harris).
GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street, W1: 11 Sung Euch, Mass in G (Schubert), Where Thou Reignest (Schubert), Fugue in E minor (Schubert).
QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 M, Te Deum (Vaughan Williams), Sing ye to the Lord (Bairstow), The Chaplain; 12.30 HC.
ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; 11 M & Sermon, Responses (Morley), Te Deum, Jubilate (Howells), O Lord, make thy servant Elizabeth (Byrd), Canon J G M W Murphy.
THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Thou visitest the earth (Greene), Responses (Thalben-Ball), Te Deum Laudamus (Stanford in C), Jubilate Deo (Stanford in C), My beloved spake and said unto me (Hadley), Voluntary: Fanfare (Whitlock), The Master.
GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M, O pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Tomkins), Jubilate, Rejoice in the Lord alway (Anon), Voluntary: Processional (Grundman), Rev K R Joyce (Band of The Irish Guards); 12 HC.
ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 11 Sung Euch, To thee O Lord (Rachmaninov), O taste and see (Goss), The Chaplain.

TEL: 071 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

FAX: 071 481 9313

BIRTHS

ARMSTRONG-HOY - On May 8th, to Elizabeth and Richard, a daughter, Leigh.
BAYNE - On May 13th, to Kristin (née Collyns) and Tom, a daughter, Claudia, a sister for Felix.
BERNARD - On May 11th, to Catherine (née Chubb) and Michael, a son, Henry Nicolas Peter, a brother for Christopher.
BLAKE - On 22nd April, to Isabel (née Horovitz) and Jonathan, a son, Michael Alexander, a brother for Lucy, David and Simon.
COBB - On April 28th, to Luciane and Michael, a daughter, Natasha Jane Paciello, a sister for Daniel and Nicholas.
DAUNT - On 14th May, to Margaret (née Boyle) and William, a daughter, Elizabeth Amy, a sister for James and Anna.
ELWELL - On 10th May, at the Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead, to Jean and Richard, a son, Connor James.
GREENWELL - On 13th May 1993, to Catherine (née Carroll) and Andrew, a beautiful daughter, Amanda Kathleen.
MARTIN-LAWRENCE - On May 13th 1993, to Ruth (née Harrington) and Stephen, a son, Adam Christopher.
OLIVER - On May 6th, to Victoria (née Reis) and Alex, a son, Henry Benjamin James.
PODE - On Monday May 10th, to Kate and Adam, a son, Edward Julian Laurie, a brother for Hester Maud.
ROBERTSON - On May 3rd 1993, to Katie (née Archer) and Andy, a son, Sam Sebastian, a brother for Tom.
ROBERTS - On 29th April, to Anna (née Lewandowska) and John, a son, George Anthony Wace.

DEATHS

ARNOLD - On 11th May 1993, peacefully at Burrswood, Groombridge, Joan Carey in her 85th year. Unique to the many who knew and loved her. Funeral Service at 11 am on Thursday 20th May at Holy Trinity Church, East Peckham, followed by cremation at Tunbridge Wells. Flowers, enquiries to Hickmotts, Tunbridge Wells (0892) 522462. Donations to Royal Horticultural Society, Vincent Sq., London SW1.
BARRY - Paddy (Anita Joyce), died peacefully at home in Johannesburg, South Africa, on 20th April. Mourned by her family and friends.
BRIGGS - On 12th May at Oakfield Nursing Home, Bath. Sir Geoffrey Gould Briggs, formerly Chief Justice of Hong Kong. Funeral Service at Haycombe Crematorium, Bath, on Wednesday 19th May at 1.40 pm. Family flowers only, but donations if desired for Bath Abbey 2000. Bath Abbey Trust, may be sent to Jollys Funeral Directors, 7 Windsor Place, Upper Bristol Road, Bath, BA1 3DF.
DICK - On 11th May, peacefully, Dr. Ursula Marianne, aged 79. Beloved sister of Paul, June, Cleone and Robin and very dear aunt and great-aunt. Funeral at St Peter's Church, Walton on the Hill, Surrey, on Friday 21st May at 3 pm, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Help the Aged.
GAINHAM - On May 12th, Bill died peacefully, aged 56. Funeral Service to be held at Golders Green Crematorium on Friday 21st May at 2.15pm. Cut flowers only please or donations to The Garden House Hospice, Letchworth, Herts. Enquiries to The Co-operative Funeral Service, Letchworth. (0462) 480782.
GIBBES - George, on 11th May 1993, peacefully in hospital after a brief illness in his 86th year. The funeral will be held in the Orthodox Church, Canterbury Road, Oxford, at 1 pm on Wednesday 19th May. Flowers or enquiries to Reeves and Pain, 288 Abingdon Road, Oxford OX1 4TE, tel: (0865) 242529.
HEYWORTH TALBOT - See Talbot.
HOGG - On 12th May 1993, peacefully after a long illness, Margaret Wynne, aged 51 years. Beloved wife of Graham and mother of Andrew and Richard. Funeral Service at St Leonard's Church, Chesham Bois, Amersham, Bucks, at 1.30 pm on Tuesday 18th May, then to Chilterns Crematorium, Amersham. Family flowers only, please, but donations to Cancer Treatment & Research Trust, c/o Professor Newlands, Dept. of Medical Onchology, Charing Cross Hospital, Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8RF.
JENKINS - On Friday 14th May 1993, peacefully, at Pinehurst Nursing Home, Sevenoaks, Mona Moubray (née Gray), aged 90 years, Dame Grand Cross and holder of the Gold Star of Merit of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre, dearly beloved wife of Douglas and dearest mother of Jonathan, Joanna, Mary and Timothy. Requiem at St Thomas of Canterbury Church, Granville Road, Sevenoaks, at 12 noon Wednesday 19th May 1993. Interment private. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to the Order of the Holy Sepulchre c/o A. France & Son, Funeral Directors, 45 Lamb's Conduit Street, London WC1N 3NH.
LABOVITCH - Bonny (Bonny Spencer), peacefully on 13th May 1993, after an 18 month battle with a brain tumour. Missed and mourned by her husband Clive, her parents Hetty and Woolf, her sister George, her relatives and her many friends in journalism and the fashion world.
PAUL - On May 13th 1993, peacefully at home in Linchmere after a short illness, Jean Mary, widow of Hugh. Much loved by her four daughters Carol, Susan, Denise, Elaine and her nine grandchildren. Private funeral at her request and please no flowers.
SIMS-WILLIAMS - On 13th May 1993 peacefully in the Hampshire Clinic, Stella Marian Arbuthnot, wife of the late Capt. Hugh Sims-Williams RN. Funeral service at St Martin's Church, Ellisfield, on Thursday 20th May at 2.30 pm, no flowers.
SYZ - On 12th May, peacefully at home in Thame, Madeleine, born Geneva 29th November 1910. For nearly 60 years wonderful friend of the Orde-Brownes and family. Much loved and greatly missed by family and friends here and in Switzerland. Funeral at St Mary's Church, Thame, 2pm Friday 21st May.
TACCHI-MORRIS - Kathleen, on Wednesday May 12th peacefully at Musgrove Park Hospital, Taunton, aged 94. She was President of Women for World Disarmament and a former ballerina. Funeral Service will be held at Taunton Deane Crematorium Thursday May 20th at 1.30 pm. Enquiries to E. White and Son Ltd., Funeral Directors, 138 East Reach, Taunton, who will receive any flowers and donations.
TALBOT - On 11th May 1993 in Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, Heather Heyworth Talbot. Beloved wife of the late Frank Heyworth Talbot Q.C., much loved and loving daughter of John and Vera Williams of Carnon Downs, Cornwall and very dear sister of Jeremy. The funeral will take place at St Mary's Church, Little Abington, on Wednesday 19th May at 2pm. Enquiries to H.J. Paintin Ltd., telephone: (0223) 891226.
WELLS - On Wednesday 12th May, Lt. Col. Herbert James Wells, CBE, MC, JP, DL, of Carshalton Beeches, Surrey, former High Sheriff of the County of Surrey, peacefully in his sleep at St Anthony's Hospital, Cheam, aged 96. Service of Thanksgiving at St Peter's Church, Woodmansterne, on 28th May at 2.30 pm to be followed by cremation at Randalls Park, Leatherhead. No flowers please, by request. Donations to Royal Star & Garter Home to be sent to W.A. Truelove & Sons, 118 Carshalton Road, Sutton SM1 4RL.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

WILLIAMS - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of the late Nancy Hilda Williams, widow of His Honour Judge John Elwyn Williams, will be held at the Church of St Mary the Virgin, Belchamp Walter, near Sudbury, Suffolk, on Tuesday June 1st 1993 at 11.30 am.

IN MEMORIAM – WAR

AGAZARIAN - Noel le Chevalier F/O Royal Air Force A., killed in action 16th May 1941, Cyrenaica and Jack Charles Stanmore, F/Lt. Royal Air Force V.R., S.O.E., murdered 29th March 1945, Flossenberg.
'Detur Gloria Soli Deo'.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

ROBINSON - Matthew, 14th May 1966. In proud and ever loving memory. Denis.

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

TOMPKINS - Richard C.B.E. With all our love on your birthday and always. A very bright light has gone out of our lives, but a brighter star shines up above. Liz and Vicky.

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified: after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.
BEAL, MAY MARION of 51/53 The Avenue, Surbiton, Surrey died on 26th August 1992; Particulars to Messrs. D.B. Morris & Co., Solicitors of 23 Golden Square, London W1R 3PA before 16th July 1993.

In the estate of
Susanne Horwell deceased
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 27 of the Trustee Act, 1925, that any person having a claim against or an interest in the estate of Susanne Horwell late of 106 Chatsworth Road London NW2 who died on the 23rd day of August 1993, is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the undersigned, the Solicitors for the Executors before the 20th day of July 1993 after which date the Executors will distribute the estate among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice and will not as respects the property so distributed, be liable to any person whose claim or interest they shall not then have had notice.
DATED this 15th day of May 1993
Messrs Nabarro Nathanson 50 Stratton Street, LONDON W1X 6FL Ref: 3A/CXK/H1692/1
Solicitors for the Executors

SAUNDERS MR. LOUIS JOHN of 43 Creffield Road, Ealing, London W5 3RR died on 23rd July 1992; Particulars to Charles Russell Solicitors of Hale Court, Lincoln's Inn, London WC2A 3UL before 16th July 1993.

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTING

ALL MASONIC Articles, Regalia, Jewels, Watches, Books etc. Wanted. 071 229 9618

I buy Meissen, Minton and any good porcelain. I also buy general antiques at probate price plus 10%. Mrs Davis 48 Long St, Dolphin Antiques, Tetbury, Glos GL8 8AQ 0666 504242.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VERY Creative man 37 req help on global reform project living ahead of my time 081544 9092

DOMESTIC & CATERING SITUATIONS

AUPAIR Wanted for two boys, send CV, references and photo to Theresa Rutz, 6208 Scenic Turn, Boca Raton, Florida 33433, U.S.A. Tel: 0101 40 74 88 2689

FLATSHARE

BALHAM SW12. Prof m/f, ns, large dble rm in shared grnd flr flat with gdn, nr tube/BR. £300 pcm Excl. 081 673 7916
BOUNDS GREEN N11 prof m/f dble rm in n/s hse hse nr tube. £80 pw. Tel:071 875 5370.
CHELSEA SW10. Rm to let, own WC & basin, TV, prof female, under 40, n/s £70 pw incl. 071 373 3462.
FULHAM Large sgl rm in CH shared hse suit young n/s prof fem. £70 pw inc. 071 736 0464
FULHAM, v close Fulham brdy, m/f, n/s, lux flt, pkng, no bills, £86 pw inc. 071 402 5802.
HURLINGHAM, SW6. Lovely dble bedrm and ensuite bathroom to rent early June. Next to tube. Shared use of family flat. £100 pw. 071 731 7928
KENSINGTON, M/F to share bright airy flat with terrace. £100 pw + bills. 071 323 3369
KENSINGTON Sgl rm prof M/F, sunny n/s male, 2 mins NHG tube. £85 pw. 071 221 1092
NOTTING HILL Off Portobello Rd. Own rm in sunny 2 bdrm flat plus roof terr. Suit n/s f £80pw. 071 221 6733 (ans).
PIMLICO Dble rm in bright airy flat close tube/bus for prof m/f n/s. £90 pw inc.Tel: (071) 798 8803 (h) 834 3647 (w).
SOUTH KEN, split level flat, all mod cons, 1 lge rm, 1 prof m. £122 pw 071 589 2387.
SW6, Chelsea borders, n/s, lux flt, dbl room, grge. £105 pw inc. 071 723 0886.
SW6 2 rooms with own bathroom each looking for a girl in large house near tube. £325, £275 pcm. 071 736 1002.
W. KEN Large room, own shower and W.C. in flat, share kitchen, close Dist and Picc. n/s. £111 inc. 071 385 8846
WANDSWORTH COMMON July 4th on also till 4/6, room o'looking common, 5 mins BR, 10 mins Vict. Prof n/s 25+ quiet £75pw inc. 081 877 0806

FOR SALE

MAHOGANY Circular bookcase. Excellent condition. 081 455 4821.
OLD & NEW york, french, & pennant stone flagstones, floor tiles, stone troughs, victorian brick, cobble sets etc. Nationwide deliveries: 0380 850039 (Wilts)
TOP HAT Black silk. Excellent condition. Suitable Derby Day or Ascot. Tel: 0775 834199.

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LEGAL NOTICES

No. 003309 of 1993
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER of BICC PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY
- and -
IN THE MATTER of THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 5 May 1993 confirming the cancellation of the Share Premium Account of the above-named Company was registered by the Registrar of Companies on 11 May 1993.
Dated the 15th day of May 1993
Freshfields, 65 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1HS
Tel: 071-936 4000
(Ref IKT/PJW/779231)
Solicitors for the above-named Company

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

STEINWAY Grand piano, 6 ft. Mahogany case. Recond. Immac Maint. £9,000. Yamaha Grand piano, 5ft 7ins G2 RE model. White case. Immac. Maint. £6,000. 0282 690441

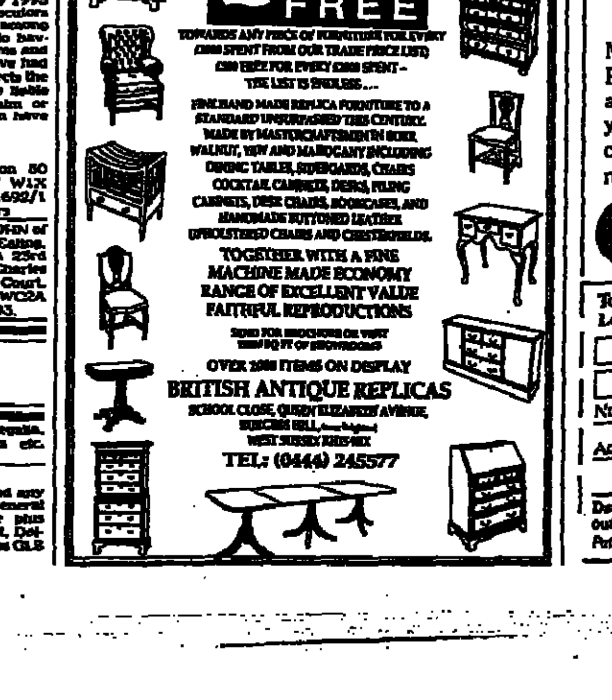
PETS & LIVESTOCK

STAND OUT from the crowd beautiful Skye Terrier puppies available, father was best of breed at Crufts'93, KC reg, excellent pedigree, caring homes required. 0656 768790.

RENTALS

CHELSEA SW3, Kings Rd. 1/2 bd flt. Lge patio. WM & DW. Co let. £250 pw. 071 581 0161 t
CHELSEA SW3 Luxury balcony apt. Dble bedrm, extra light recp, lift, porters. 071 622 5825
CHISWICK Riverside. S/c furnished flat, 3 rms, k & b, fitted carpets, phone. CH. £520 pcm. Please Reply to Box No 2242
FULHAM Delightful 3 bed, 2 bath house, garden. Available until September 30th. £250 pw. Tel 071 731 7205.
HARROW ON HILL 2 lovely flats in Regency Mansion from £125pw Owner 081 998 0021
HIGHGATE N10. F/f flat, dble bedrm, recep, kitchen & bathrm. CH, close buses/tubes. £550 pcm. 081 883 0964
HIGHGATE N6 nr tube, s/c 1 bed flat, telephone, GCH, n/s, £120 pw excl. 081 340 1860
KENS secure 2 bed town hse gdn pkg. Ch. hw inc sat tv, 5 min tube £200 pw 081 398 9882

ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAKING YOUR WILL?

Please remember Parkinson's Disease Society. Men and women all over the world suffer from Parkinson's Disease, over 100,000 in this country alone. There is no known cure. Researchers need your help. Help us ease the burden and find the cure for Parkinson's Disease with a donation and remember us when making your Will.

Parkinson's Disease Society
22 Upper Woburn Place, London WC1H 0RA

To: Parkinson's Disease Society, 22 Upper Woburn Place, London WC1H 0RA
☐ I enclose a donation of £.........................
☐ Please send me your Will leaflet
Name
Address
Postcode TT
Data Protection Act: We may occasionally wish to contact you about our work. If you would prefer that we do not, please tick the box. ☐
Patron: HRH The Princess of Wales *Charity Reg. No. 258197*

OBITUARIES

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL SIR ERIC PENN

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Eric Penn, GCVO, OBE, MC, Assistant Comptroller of the Lord Chamberlain's Office, 1960-1964, and Comptroller, 1964-81, died on May 12 aged 77. He was born on February 19, 1916.



SIR Eric Penn served the Queen with dedication for almost half-a-century: for 24 years in the Grenadier Guards and for 21 years as assistant comptroller and comptroller in the Lord Chamberlain's Office. Not only was he trusted implicitly by the Queen but they were also long-standing personal friends who had known each other in their younger days. He was brought up by his uncle, Sir Arthur Penn, one of King George VI's advisers, and subsequently the Queen Mother's treasurer and private secretary. He met the then Princess Elizabeth soon after he returned from Dunkirk in 1940.

Penn was uniquely suited to the appointment of comptroller. A man of great personal charm and tact he had high principles, which he imposed on himself and expected of others. He was the impressively tall, upright figure with pronounced dark eyebrows so often noted, standing behind the Queen, by those attending investitures in the 1960s and the 1970s. A modest man, he avoided the limelight.

His greatest attributes, however, were his organisational ability and producer's eye in planning and executing ceremonial occasions. He was a perfectionist, who could delegate and accept the efforts of others, but achieve results through paying meticulous attention to detail. As Assistant Adjutant General of London District before he joined the Household staff, he was responsible for the planning of Sir Winston Churchill's funeral. As comptroller, he masterminded such occasions as the weddings of Princess Margaret, Princess Anne and the Duke of Kent; the Queen's Silver Jubilee and the Queen Mother's 80th Birthday services at St Paul's; the funerals of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor, Earl Mountbatten and the Duke of Gloucester; and many other royal occasions.

During the first years of his tenure as comptroller, the Lord Chamberlain's Office was responsible for theatre censorship. It was a difficult time with playwrights like John Osborne challenging the established rules of what was acceptable on stage. Despite much press criticism of the Lord Chamberlain's role, and barbed personal attacks, punning on "Penn" being mightier than the sword, most theatre managers and producers recall the well-balanced relationship he established with them until censorship by his office was abolished.

He was the son of Captain Eric F. Penn, Grenadier Guards, who was killed in France in 1915, three months before his son was born. He was educated at Eton and Magdalene College, Cambridge, where he read history. His mother, Gladys Ebden, died when he was 15, and thereafter his uncle, Sir Arthur Penn, whom he very much resembled in appearance and personality, acted in sole loco parentis. With war clouds looming during the Abyssinian crisis of 1936, he joined the Grenadier Guards as a Supplementary Reserve Officer, and was given a regular commission just after the Munich crisis of 1938.

Posted to the 1st Battalion, he went with it to France in the BEF in 1939 and survived Dunkirk. He was its Adjutant until he was appointed Staff Captain "Q", in the Guards Armoured Division at the end of 1942. After a spell at the staff college he went out to Italy, winning his MC with the 6th Battalion at Trimonsuoli in January 1944 during the 10th Corps crossing of the Garigliano River.

Posted as Brigade Major of 28th Infantry Brigade in Dudley Ward's 4th Division, he took part in the final battle for Cassino in May 1944, and the advance up Italy to the Gothic Line. After its breaching, the division was withdrawn to the Middle East to refit, but Penn was transferred to the 3rd Battalion in the 1st Guards Brigade (6th Armoured Division) with which he fought as a company commander in the final battle of the Italian campaign.

After the war, he held a number of regimental appointments in the UK, Germany and Libya until 1950 when he was appointed Brigade Major of 1st Guards Brigade in the Suez Canal zone during the troubled period of the renegotiation of the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty. After a further spell in Germany he joined the staff of HQ London District and became its Assistant Adjutant General (AAG) responsible for ceremonial in the capital. During the following year he was selected to command the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards, which, as a devoted Grenadier, had always been the height of his ambition; and he was appointed an OBE for his services to London District.

Unfortunately, before he could take over command, he hurt his back in a skiing accident. Quite fortuitously, the appointment of assistant comptroller came up for which he was strongly recommended to the Queen. Knowing that his back injury would bar him from any future military operations, he decided, with considerable reluctance from the regimental point of view, to retire from the Army and to accept the Household appointment.

He was appointed an extra equerry to the Queen in 1963. He was appointed CVO in 1965; created KCVO in 1972 and advanced to GCVO when he retired as comptroller in 1981.

He married Prudence Stewart-Wilson in 1947. They had two sons and a daughter. All his family survive him.

SIR ALEX PAGE

Sir Alexander (Alex) Page, MBE, former chairman of Metal Box, died on May 7 aged 78. He was born on July 1, 1914.



DURING the 1970s, when Sir Alex Page was either chairman or chief executive of Metal Box, or both, he moved the group's base from London to Reading, expanded it internationally and took it into new activities such as central heating and cheque printing. Consequently Metal Box, which makes food and drink cans for many of the leading manufacturers, became one of the largest companies in Europe.

But, after his retirement, relentless competition, mainly from the United States, eventually led to a merger with Carnaud of France and the sale of what came to be deemed peripheral businesses.

Alexander Warren Page was born into a comfortable middle-class family and grew up in Surbiton, Surrey. His father, Sydney, was a patent agent. Page was educated at Tonbridge before going up to Clare College, Cambridge, to read engineering. He won a half-blue at tennis and was good enough to play in junior Wimbledon.

Metal Box was a natural employer to make use of Page's engineering talents. He joined the company in 1936 as a management trainee and soon conceived a grand ambition. He married his first wife, Anne, four years later, confiding to her that he was determined to become chairman.

His engineering background also led Page to spend the second world war with the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, attached to the Guards Armoured Division. He enlisted as a sapper and finished the war a lieutenant-colonel, taking part in the follow-up to the D-day landings. He was appointed MBE in 1943 and was mentioned in dispatches. After demobilisation, Page returned to Metal Box as assistant to the general sales manager. But he was quickly identified as a high-flyer by Sir Robert Barlow, the group's postwar architect.

Page ran the company's Open Top division from 1949 until he was made group sales director in 1957. He became managing director nine years later and deputy chairman in 1969.

But the 1970s were his apogee. He was appointed chairman and chief executive in 1970. He surrendered the executive role in 1977, retiring as chairman in 1979 when the group's annual sales passed £1 billion for the first time.

Cans were in high demand then. Conservation was less of an issue and cans were felt to be more convenient than bottles. The easy-open can top was invented in the US, and Metal Box was the first company to market it in Europe. Rising living standards and busier lives stimulated demand for convenience foods and, in the pre-freezer era, cans were the best way to deliver them.

Page brought the group's research work together at Wantage in Oxfordshire, leading to the development of the two-piece can. This stimulated demand even more, and at one time the company was opening a new factory every year. Mars wanted to put its pet foods into cans, entering into an agreement with Metal Box that proved highly profitable.

Meanwhile the main drinks companies were expanding round the world, and Metal Box used its Commonwealth connections to follow them through Africa, Asia and Australasia. This successful expansion was throwing off huge amounts of cash, while the threat from the giant US canmakers was growing. So Page used the cash to cut the group's dependence on cans. He took it into central heating, bathroom equipment and cheque printing.

In 1970 he was invited by Christopher Chataway, then Minister for Posts and Telecommunications, to be the only industrialist on the Independent Television Authority, forerunner of the Independent Broadcasting Authority. His six years there gave Page a fresh insight into business problems.

He was knighted in 1977, but as his career at Metal Box was coming to a close the competitive forces gathered. Profit margins were squeezed and his successors were forced to retrench.

The year before his retirement, he joined the board of J. Lyons, the tea and cakes group. But that was short-lived, as within a few months Lyons was taken over by Allied Breweries. He took several other directorships, but gradually moved into the financial services industry. He joined GT Pension Services in 1981, and became chairman of PFC International Portfolio Fund four years later.

Page is survived by his second wife, Andrea, whom he married in 1981, and the two sons and a daughter of his first marriage, to Anne Lewis Hickman, which was dissolved.

AHRN PALLEY

Ahrn Palley, one of the last surviving figures from Rhodesia's 1965 unilateral declaration of independence, died in Harare, Zimbabwe, on May 6 aged 79. He was born on February 13, 1914.



SITTING nearly 28 years ago as the lone white liberal in the 65-seat Rhodesian Parliament, Ahrn Palley achieved a signal distinction. He was hauled out by the serjeant-at-arms from the chamber during the first sitting after Ian Smith's proclamation of November 11, 1965. As he was led away, he angrily protested: "This is an illegal assembly. God save the Queen."

Born in Cape Town, Ahrn Palley qualified as a doctor at London University and practised as a paediatric specialist in the city of his birth before studying for the Bar and emigrating to what was then Southern Rhodesia in the early 1950s.

He refused offers of a seat on the judicial bench from successive Rhodesian and Zimbabwean governments, partly because of his implacable opposition to capital and corporal punishment, still in force in Zimbabwe, and partly because of his abhorrence of authoritarian administrations — between which he found it increasingly hard to distinguish, regardless of race.

He represented the white suburban constituency of Greendale in the Salisbury Parliament. He sat for the right-wing Dominion party from 1958 to 1959. He then left the Dominion party, later gaining election as an independent by the predominantly black electorate of Highfield from 1962 to 1970.

Although never in good health (he underwent a colostomy at the age of 24) he conducted a single-handed, all-night marathon filibuster against the draconian Law and Order Maintenance Act, exploited by both black and white regimes since its 1960 enactment to harass and detain potential opponents.

Ian Smith descibed him as "a one-man opposition party" and held him, despite the difference in their political philosophies, in the greatest respect.

Active as a medical and legal practitioner to the day of his death from a heart attack, Palley once summed up his encyclopaedic knowledge and experience thus: "In medicine, avoid surgery in almost any circumstances — it is ruinously expensive in money and you will almost invariably be disappointed by the long-term results. Exactly the same is true for litigation in the field of law, and for unconstitutional, violent or arbitrary courses in the field of politics and human relations."

A legal adviser to Bishop Abel Muzorewa's United African National Congress at the 1979 Lancaster House Conference, which ended the 1972-80 Rhodesian war, Palley kept out of active politics in later years. He was scornful of whites who interpreted "liberalism" as an uncritical identification with the aims and methods of African nationalist parties.

He separated in the 1960s from his wife Dr Claire Palley (author of The Constitutional History of Southern Rhodesia). He is survived by her and by five sons.

MARGARET GORDON

Margaret Gordon, former secretary to Lord Beaverbrook, died on May 11 aged 94. She was born near Glasgow on February 12, 1899.

MARGARET Gordon's entire working life was spent with Lord Beaverbrook; first as a young woman in the 1920s, as his secretary, then during the war, when he held the post of Minister of Aircraft Production; and finally, building up the art collection he founded at Fredericton, New Brunswick.

She was privy to many of his secrets, both affairs of state and personal, not a single one of which she divulged: when asked, after Beaverbrook's death, to write a behind-the-scenes book about him, she loyally refused. "Whether someone is alive or dead, betraying a trust is betraying a trust and I can't do it."

Her first husband, Cedric Blundell-Ince, was a journalist on the Daily Express, and her daughter, Angela, was born in 1930. In 1936 they moved to South Africa where he worked as assistant editor on the Rand Daily Mail.

In 1939, before the outbreak of war, Blundell-Ince returned to England to join the Royal Air Force, leaving his wife and daughter to travel home on the Stirling Castle, the last ship to carry civilian passengers out of South Africa.

Gordon worked in London throughout the Blitz, unfazed by the bombing and surviving with her old priorities intact. Lunching one day at The Ivy (her favourite restaurant), she looked round to see the place had emptied; bombs were falling and everybody else had prudently sheltered under their tables. "This lamb is wonderful", she said, "to hell with the Luftwaffe" — and went on eating.

After the war, she took on more responsibility with Beaverbrook, progressing from being an invaluable personal assistant to something more in the line of director of acquisitions. Beaverbrook was, at that time, looking for ways to keep his memory green in his home province of Canada. Having donated a great many books to the University of New Brunswick and to the libraries of Newcastle, where his father had been the Presbyterian minister, he became inspired by his old friend and art patron Sir James Dunn, and gave orders for the building of an art gallery at Fredericton, an undertaking which he conducted with his normal haste and impatience. Gordon was switched over from the buying of books for New Brunswick to the collecting of paintings, a subject on which she became a considerable expert.



Beaverbrook liked paintings of the English countryside. Boucher and Fragonard. Otherwise he built up his collection as he would any other investment portfolio, never acquiring many works by the same artist. He once dismissed Gordon's suggestion of a Turner with the words: "I've got enough of that fellow." The gallery was opened on September 18, 1959, with a remarkable, if uneven, collection of British and Canadian pictures. That it had been put together at all within three years was testament to Gordon's taste and tenacity as much as to Beaverbrook's money.

In May 1972, Gordon, then widowed, married John Gordon, the editor-in-chief and columnist of the Sunday Express. At the Presbyterian service at St Columba's, Pont Street, she was given away by her son-in-law Freddie Finston who wryly observed that it was not every day a man got the chance to give his mother-in-law away. Their reception at the Carlton Tower brought together many old luminaries of Fleet Street.

She made friends everywhere, as easily with taxi drivers as with cabinet ministers and was a generous ally. Even at her busiest moments she always found time to celebrate a success and comfort a failure. She kept her wits about her to the end. When a family friend visited her on her 94th birthday, Gordon said: "Tell me, what does John Major do?" The guest leant forward to remind her gently that he was the prime minister. "Because," continued Margaret briskly, "all I ever seem to see him doing is standing on the steps of Downing Street and talking. Why doesn't he go inside and do something?"

Margaret Gordon is survived by her daughter.

PERSONAL COLUMN

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THE FRANCO-BRITISH EXHIBITION.

The Franco-British Exhibition was formally opened yesterday by the Prince of Wales with all the distinction conferred by his presence and that of the Princess who accompanied him. Their Royal Highnesses went through a full programme with their accustomed graciousness and good will in the presence of vast throngs of visitors, and were supported by many notabilities, both French and British. Everything passed off well, and in more auspicious circumstances the ceremony would have been a brilliant inauguration of this great undertaking. But it was, unfortunately, marred by wretched weather and, in a lesser degree, by the general state of incompleteness in which the Exhibition still stands. The weather behaved very badly, and its ill-effects were an unpleasant reminder of the enormous influence exercised by that factor on the fortunes of an exhibition of this kind.

When the procession left the entrance hall rain was still falling heavily, and the Prince and Princess of Wales moved down the long lines of spectators as through an avenue of umbrellas. Arrival at the Stadium meant the beginning of new difficulties. The eastern grand stand was parted by the full width of the arena space, 700 feet, from the western stand, in which the brief ceremony of inauguration was to be conducted, so that nothing could be heard in the former of words spoken, and little seen, even through fieldglasses, of things done on the far side. During the period of waiting and of growing wet — for the thickening rain drifted far under the lofty roof — it was impossible not to admire sincerely the spacious Stadium. It is a space of 1,000ft by 700ft, a cinder-path for running, and turf in the central space. At two points in this turf due preparations have been made for the jumps, two enclosures with mats are intended for wrestling and the like, and the whole circuit is banked up with tier upon tier of seats, equal to the accommodation of 60,000 spectators. The covered stands on either side each contain 10,000 seats, and immediately in front of the western stand is a swimming bath 330ft long. It was easy to accept the statement of the authorities that this Stadium is "the largest, most costly, and best appointed the world has yet known."

More and more pitiless grew the rain, but in spite of it the crowds came flocking in. At a quarter past 3 there were signs of life in the Stadium. From the dressing rooms under the eastern stand emerged the representatives of the Finchley Harriers, whose sports were to inaugurate the Stadium, a particoloured column of athletes; and these marched towards the front of the western stand, making the circuit southward.

From the same point, making the circuit northward, marched the representatives of the Regent-street Polytechnic and it was to be noticed that the Polytechnic youths, uniformly dressed and marching well, looked remarkably smart. The Prince and Princess were seen to appear and took their places, trumpets were heard to sound a fanfare from time to time, and the Prince no doubt declared the Exhibition open.

ON THIS DAY

May 15 1908

The Franco-British exhibition at White City in London covered over 200 acres and contained 25 palaces and halls. The showpiece was the stadium, then the biggest sporting arena in the world, and in which, two months later, the Olympic Games were held.

THE TIMES TODAY SATURDAY MAY 15 1993

NEWS

Major refuses to give up reforms

■ John Major launched a battle for political survival, promising to make an assault on crime the centrepiece of a programme to unite his fractious and demoralised party.

In a direct response to the drubbing at last week's elections, he made clear that he was ready to listen to voters' concerns, but insisted that the government would not give up its reforms. "Give up? Give over," he said ..... **Pages 1, 2**

Paris gunman keeps police at bay

■ A gunman held six nursery school pupils and their teacher captive for a second day in western Paris. The government and police chiefs played for time against his threats to blow himself up or bleed the children to death ..... **Pages 1, 13**

Croats forced down

Two RAF Tornados forced a Croatian army helicopter to land after it was caught trying to fly ammunition to Croat troops in central Bosnia... **Pages 1, 12, 14**

Union challenge

John Smith took on the union leaders opposing his democratic reforms by insisting that he would go ahead with planned changes..... **Page 8**

Jaguar safest

Jaguar cars are the safest, according to a transport department league table of crash ratings for 90 models. Worst was the Citroën 2CV ..... **Pages 1, 3**

Ingham bites back

Sir Bernard Ingham writes that Lord Rees-Mogg, in attacking Mr Major, is only behaving to type. "We need waste no more time on eggheads" ..... **Page 8**

Shipyard tender

Swan Hunter shipyard was last night preparing a £20 million tender for two patrol boats for the Omani navy ..... **Page 2**

Thatcher support

Baroness Thatcher emphatically backed Chris Patten and the rule of law in Hong Kong ..... **Page 9**

Cook libel payout

A soldier branded a violent bully by Roger Cook's television programme has been awarded substantial damages ..... **Page 3**

Empty talk

Arab and Israeli negotiators returned empty-handed from the ninth round of the Middle East peace talks..... **Page 11**

CD price enquiry

Compact disc prices are to be investigated by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission after the Commons heritage committee urged a £2 cut ..... **Page 5**

Yeltsin boost

President Yeltsin's hardline opponents suffered a severe blow when Nikolai Ryabov, deputy chairman of parliament, came out in favour of plans for a constitutional assembly..... **Page 13**

Tottenham dismiss Venables

■ Tottenham Hotspur Football Club was in disarray as players, staff and supporters protested at the sacking of Terry Venables as chief executive. The chairman, Alan Sugar, was being blamed for the dismissal of a successful coach and manager, who is now considering legal action ..... **Pages 1, 36**

BARRY GREENWOOD



England in May: a car struggling through snow near Penrith, Cumbria, yesterday. Torrential rain later washed most of it away

BUSINESS

Lunch is over: A ruling by the Stock Exchange, criticising London International Group for making briefings about trading problems to selected professional investors, could end the traditional "broker's lunch" ..... **Page 19**

Positive sign: Company insolvencies fell by 5 per cent in the first quarter of the year, the second successive drop ..... **Page 21**

Profits rise: Unilever raised its pre-tax profits for the first quarter by 7 per cent to £420 million, but this disappointed the City..... **Page 20**

Markets: The pound made gains against leading currencies, closing up 1.14c at $1.5367 and up 0.71 pfennigs at DM2.4690. Shares were subdued, with the FT-SE 100 down 2.3 at 2,847.0..... **Page 22**

Body double: Gordon Roddick, hitherto silent partner in the Body Shop empire, emerges from the twilight ..... **Page 21**

SPORT

Football: Arsenal and Sheffield Wednesday meet in today's FA Cup final with the north London side strong favourites to repeat their Coca-Cola Cup final win of last month ..... **Pages 34-5**

Cricket: Andy Caddick of Somerset, a member of England's squad for the one-day internationals against Australia, took nine wickets for 32 runs in only 11 overs as his side beat Lancashire by 15 runs at Taunton..... **Page 31**

Racing: The trainer Roger Charlton suffered an early reverse at Newbury when fined under the rule regarding non-triers, but gained an unexpected listed race success later ..... **Page 33**

Equestrianism: Veronique Whitaker, on Everest Fol Amour, became the women's national show-jumping champion at the Royal Windsor Horse Show — after ignoring the orders of her husband and trainer, Michael ..... **Page 32**

THE WEEKEND

The myth of monarchy: A week before the *Times*/Charter 88 debate on the monarchy and the constitution, Marina Warner examines how the Palace might reform itself ..... **Page 1**

Muck and brass: Jane Down, alias Lady Muck, has made a successful career out of manure, including the invention of the Muckagram "sealed with a kiss" ..... **Page 3**

On the beaten track: The traditions of Rogation Sunday are enjoying a revival. Where to go to beat the parish bounds..... **Page 7**

Paradise regained: How to buy a home in the Caribbean, where the people are welcoming, the climate is perfect and property values are rising..... **Page 9**

Country life: Philip Howard talks to one of the last of the drowners, traditional keepers of Britain's water meadows and 20 centuries of rural lore ..... **Page 10**

ARTS

Shogun man: How do you write a bestselling blockbuster? Forget about plotting, forget about characterisation, advises James Clavell, the author of *Shogun* and *Tai-Pan*. "What happens? Who does what to whom? That's all you need"..... **Weekend page 14**

Spoilt for choice: As with buses, you wait ages for one recording of Handel's rare opera *Ottone*, and then along come two together. Stephen Pettitt compares and contrasts ..... **Weekend page 14**

Old story: The Epic of Gilgamesh, said to be the world's oldest story, has been staged by the National Theatre as a play called *He Who Saw Everything*. **Weekend page 14**

Nanci's choice: Singer-songwriter Nanci Griffith began her British tour with a programme that ranged from ancient Bob Dylan ditties to her own gritty and anguished lyrics ... **Weekend page 14**

LISTINGS

Inside the Wig (BBC2, tomorrow, 8.30pm) examines how judges are selected and trained..... **Page 17**

OPINION

Major and Smith

Two political antagonists stood up to speak, several hundred miles apart. For both, this was politically important: for one, the struggle was to restore short-term personal credibility; for the other, to restore the longer-term credibility of his party. They rose to the challenge; but the smell of complacency still hangs over both ..... **Page 15**

Essence of the game

Today's FA Cup final ends a season that has defied the dire predictions that the new Premier League would tear apart the fabric of sporting heritage..... **Page 15**

LEADERS

SIMON JENKINS

The Anglo-American conflict of 1995 began with the rift over Bosnia. A beleaguered Mr Clinton called John Major to ask when withdrawal from Ulster might be possible — only to be told: "When you get out of Texas" ..... **Page 14**

ALEXANDER CHANCELLOR

To hear the president we had to wander half a mile to the place where the tickets were issued. We waited an hour before being admitted, and another hour and a half before Mr Clinton arrived, two hours late..... **Page 14**

LETTERS

Policy-making that takes note of what the public wants..... **Page 15**

THE LAWYERS

The Criminal Justice Act has demoralised the police and judiciary more than any recent legislation. It has created the impression that the greatest villains were comfortably-off motorists who broke the speed limit or parked on yellow lines

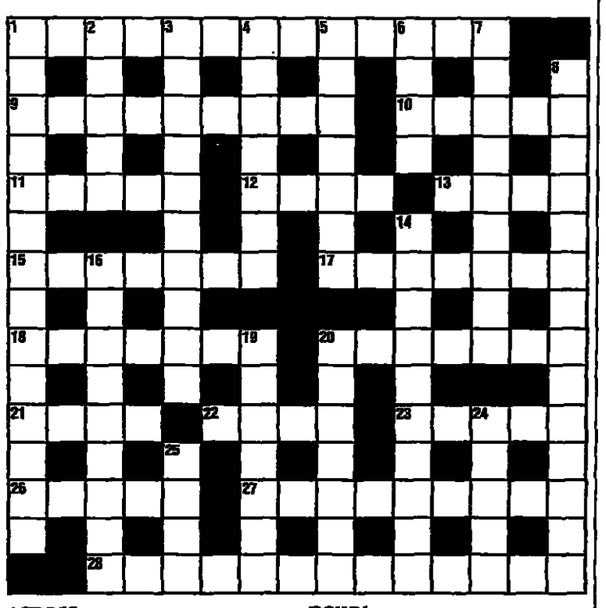
— Western Mail

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,231

KNOCKANDO

A bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky uniquely bottled only when at its peak of perfection rather than at a pre-determined age, together with a beautifully crafted stationery rack, will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address .....



ACROSS

1 No trace of a skeleton in this character's cupboard, overall (6,7).
9 New safety measure in circuit just averted disaster (4,5).
10 Lawman in plain clothes (5).
11 Passed to the left, it's old — a very old port (5).
12 Tour organiser and captain on first Australian trip (4).
13 Get up and wash (4).
15 Daughter is at seaside to have fun (7).
17 Prodigal son at first appears servile (7).
18 Fill any gaps in detailed photograph (5-2).
20 Times intervenes between a couple of chaps and islander (7).
21 Lack uprightness as immoral type (4).
22 Implacable element among environmentalists (4).
23 Plane, for example, circling one Scottish island (5).
26 I grumble when she returns (5).
27 Flower difficult to find in France (9).
28 Motte or wall constructed by king for defensive building (8,5).

DOWN

1 Hollywood star given no credit, oddly, for presidential policy (6,8).
2 Tribute, as conveyed in a little drink (5).
3 More protection needed for cricketer's position (5,5).
4 Shock treatment (7).
5 Plant's destruction by insect (7).
6 Prepares to fight as crack force goes in (4).
7 Exploit, in religious belief, a feeling of hopelessness (9).
8 Academic official finds fault with haphazard register drawn up (4-10).
14 Novel that divides town (4,6).
16 Plant oak in capital (9).
19 Appropriate choice for one who has to eat his hat (4-3).
20 A pound note, for a start, is extremely little (7).
24 Begin again with half-read novel (5).
25 Make fast on river bank (4).

P12 Weekend; Alt clued up and ready to win.

Solution to Puzzle No 19,225

C	L	U	T	C	H		C	U	T	N	O	I	C	E
	I	E		A		R		A		K		A		
C	E	N	S	O	R	I	O	U	S		A	U	N	T
	I		T		R		S		T		P		D	
I	N	F	A	M	O	U	S		E	R	I	N	Y	S
		M		W		I		F			T			
R	O	U	E				N	A	U	T	I	L	U	S
	N		N		M		G		L		N		F	
C	O	N	T	R	A	C	T			T	U	T	U	
	N			N		H		D		H				
T	E	A	C	U	P		E	V	I	D	E	N	C	E
	S		L		O		L		V		S		A	
I	O	W	A		W	H	I	T	E	H	O	R	S	E
	W		S		E		N		R		U		T	
I	N	C	H	A	R	G	E		S	U	P	P	E	R

Solution to Puzzle No 19,230

T	O	A	D	F	L	A	X		B	O	T	T	O	M
R		R		O		S			D		R		I	
A	C	C	U	R	A	T	E		D	O	M	A	I	N
N		T		A		R		U		U		V		I
C	L	I	N	G		O	W	N	E	R	L	E	S	S
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G	E	Y	S	E	R		A	G	G	R	I	E	V	E

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Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereids & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
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National motorways	737
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The winners of last Saturday's competition are: E G Scovell, Skottowe Crescent, Great Ayton, North Yorkshire; A Gould, Killiers Road, Oxhey, Watford, Hertfordshire; P J Cakebread, Diceland Road, Banstead, Surrey; D Hardy, Lister Street, Clifton, Rotherham, South Yorkshire; E Lowejoy, Poats' Cottage, Heyshott, Midhurst, Sussex.

WEATHER

England and Wales will become mostly bright or sunny after showers during the morning. Showers in the north and west may be thundery, perhaps turning to sleet or snow on higher hills. Rain will gradually clear Northern Ireland and many areas of Scotland, but will persist in parts of western Scotland. It will be breezy with temperatures mostly around normal, but feeling colder in wetter areas. Outlook: windy with rain or showers.

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	21	70	f	Luxor	37	99	s
Akrotiri	20	68	f	Madrid	19	66	f
Alex'dria	21	70	f	Majorca	19	66	s
Algiers	23	73	f	Malaga	21	70	f
Amst'dam	11	52	c	Malta	21	70	s
Athens	20	68	s	Melb'rne	14	57	c
Bahrain	29	84	s	Miami*	30	86	s
Bangkok	30	86	f	Milan	22	72	s
Barbads*	31	88	f	Montreal*	12	54	f
Barcelna	19	66	f	Moscow	22	72	c
Beirut	24	75	f	Munich	19	66	c
Belgrade	24	75	s	Naples	16	61	r
Berlin	25	77	s	N Delhi	38	100	s
Bermuda*	26	79	s	N York*	16	61	f
Biarritz	17	63	f	Nice	19	66	s
Borde'x	20	68	c	Oslo	14	57	s
Brussels	12	54	c	Paris	18	64	f
Budapst	24	75	c	Peking	28	79	s
B Aires*	17	63	f	Perth	21	70	s
Cairo	35	95	c	Prague	24	75	s
Cape Tn	18	64	f	Reykjavik	4	39	f
Chicago*	13	55	s	Rhodes	19	66	f
Ch'church	14	57	f	Rio de J	33	91	s
Cologne	12	54	c	Riyadh	33	91	s
C'phgn	17	63	s	Rome	21	70	f
Corfu	20	68	c	Salzburg	20	68	f
Dublin	3	37	sl	S Fr'sco	18	64	s
Dubrovnik	21	70	f	Santiago*	14	57	s
Faro	18	81	f	S Paulo*	25	77	s
Florence	18	64	f	Seoul	22	72	s
Frankfurt	18	61	c	Sing'por	33	91	s
Funchal	18	64	c	St'kholm	21	21	s
Geneva	17	63	c	Strasb'rg	16	61	c
Gibraltar	21	70	s	Sydney	20	68	s
Helsinki	22	72	s	Tangier	19	66	f
Hong K	31	88	f	Tel Aviv	32	90	s
Innsbruck	22	72	f	Tenerife	21	70	s
Istanbul	14	57	f	Tokyo	13	55	r
Jeddah	34	93	s	Toronto*	11	52	f
Jo'burg*	23	73	s	Tunis	23	73	c
Karachi	35	95	s	Valencia	22	72	f
L Palmas	22	72	s	Vanc'ver*	13	55	c
Le Tquet	16	61	s	Venice	22	72	s
Lisbon	17	63	c	Vienna	25	77	s
Locarno	21	70	f	Warsaw	24	75	s
London	15	59	c	Wash'ton*	23	73	f
L Angels*	21	70	s	Wel'ton	15	59	f
Luxembg	10	50	c	Zurich	16	61	r

* denotes figures are latest available

LIGHTING-UP TIMES

London 9.16 pm to 4.39 am
Bristol 9.25 pm to 4.49 am
Edinburgh 9.49 pm to 4.30 am
Manchester 9.33 pm to 4.39 am
Penzance 9.32 pm to 5.06 am

TODAY

Sun rises: 5.09 am — Sun sets: 8.46 pm
Moon rises 2.25 am — Moon sets 2.30 pm
New moon May 21

London 9.17 pm to 4.37 am
Bristol 9.27 pm to 4.47 am
Edinburgh 9.51 pm to 4.29 am
Manchester 9.35 pm to 4.37 am
Penzance 9.33 pm to 5.05 am

TOMORROW

Sun rises: 5.07 am — Sun sets: 8.47 pm
Moon rises 2.43 am — Moon sets 3.38 pm
New moon May 21

Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989: The hours of darkness are defined in these Regulations as the period between half an hour after sunset and half an hour before sunrise.

UK TOWNS

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	-	0.27	7	45	hail
Anglesey	0.8	0.16	12	54	rain
Aviemore	2.4	0.55	4	39	sleet
Belfast	2.6	0.09	11	52	rain
Birmingham	6.3	-	14	57	sunny
Bognor Regis	6.7	-	14	57	sunny
Bristol	7.1	-	18	64	bright
Buxton	2.0	-	11	52	dull
Cardiff	8.0	-	15	59	sunny
Colwyn Bay	1.6	0.07	14	57	rain
Eastbourne	1.6	-	13	55	cloudy
Edinburgh	-	0.31	6	43	rain
Eskdalemuir	-	0.26	6	43	sleet
Exmouth	-	0.03	11	52	dull
Falmouth	0.3	-	16	61	cloudy
Folkestone	0.9	-	13	55	cloudy
Glasgow	2.0	0.31	7	45	rain
Guernsey	0.8	-	14	57	cloudy
Hastings	1.8	-	14	57	cloudy
Hunstanton	-	-	9	48	dull
Isle of Man	-	0.31	9	48	rain
Jersey	1.4	-	15	59	cloudy
Kinloss	1.0	0.56	7	45	rain
Leeds	-	-	9	48	dull
Lerwick	7.7	0.18	6	43	snow
Littlehampton	4.8	-	13	55	sunny
Liverpool	2.0	0.06	13	55	rain
London	5.0	-	16	61	sunny
Lowestoft	0.5	-	13	55	cloudy
Manchester	3.3	-	15	59	cloudy
Margate	1.7	-	12	54	dull
Minehead	4.7	0.07	15	59	bright
Morecambe	2.4	0.15	12	54	rain
Newcastle	-	0.02	7	45	dull
Nottingham	1.1	-	12	54	cloudy
Penzance	1.1	-	15	59	cloudy
Plymouth	-	0.02	12	54	cloudy
Poole	0.7	-	16	61	cloudy
Salcombe	-	0.15	11	52	dull
Sandown	2.9	0.01	15	59	bright
Scampton Snd	6.8	-	16	61	sunny
Scarborough	-	-	9	48	dull
Scilly Isles	4.6	-	15	59	sunny
Shanklin	2.6	-	14	57	bright
Southsea	3.7	-	13	55	sunny
Stornoway	6.1	0.17	7	45	hail
Swanage	-	0.02	11	52	drizzle
Teignmouth	-	0.07	12	54	dull
Tenby	4.9	-	13	55	cloudy
Tiree	3.1	0.44	7	45	rain
Torquay	-	0.26	13	55	cloudy
Weymouth	-	-	11	52	cloudy
Wick	4.6	0.33	7	45	hail
Worthing	4.4	-	13	55	sunny

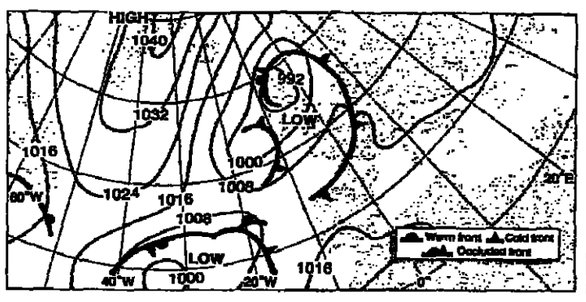
These are Thursday's figures

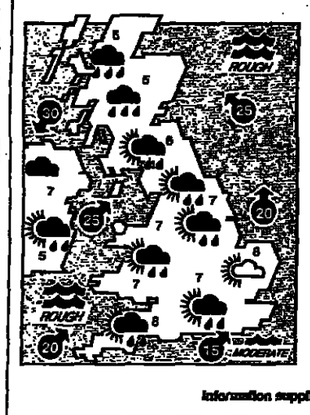
TOURIST RATES

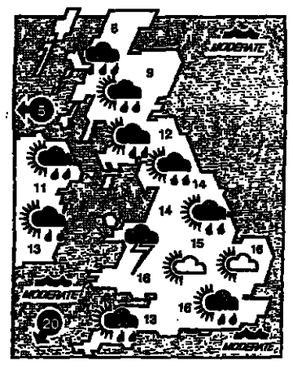
	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.26	2.08
Austria Sch	16.40	16.30
Belgium Fr	53.80	49.40
Canada $	2.07	1.91
Denmark Kr	10.11	9.31
Finland Mkk	9.12	8.32
France Fr	8.81	8.11
Germany Dm	2.605	2.405
Greece Dr	350.00	325.00
Hong Kong $	12.50	11.50
Ireland Pt	1.084	0.884
Italy Lire	2366.00	2220.00
Japan Yen	188.00	169.00
Netherlands Gld	2.95	2.70
Norway Kr	11.06	10.26
Portugal Esc	249.90	230.50
South Africa Rd	6.05	5.25
Spain Pta	194.00	181.00
Sweden Kr	11.87	11.07
Switzerland Fr	2.355	2.175
Turkey Lira	15700.0	14700.0
USA $	1.63	1.50

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

MOON TODAY







Information supplied by Met Office

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FORMER YUGOSLAVIA

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Address .....

.....

..... Postcode .....

Signature ..... Date ../../..

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Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive further information on Red Cross activities. ☐

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نقلا عن الاصل



PROFILE 21

Gordon Roddick is the business brain behind the Body



FOOTBALL 34-35

Analysis of teams and tactics for the FA Cup final



CRICKET 31

Caddick puts Lancashire on the rack

WEEKEND SPORTING FIXTURES Page 34

THE TIMES

2

SATURDAY MAY 15 1993

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WEEKEND MONEY

GOING YELLOW



The decision by a broker to end its annual analysis of environmentally friendly investments poses the question: has the City gone yellow?
Page 23

PENSION SUMS

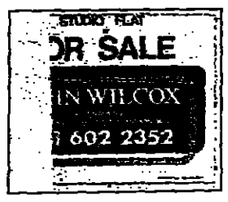
People planning to work abroad should check their pensions position before they go. Rules vary between countries
Page 24

COINING IT



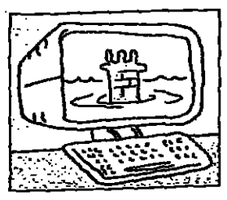
Police are on the trail of a Dublin coin investment company that failed to deliver promised profits
Page 25

KEY DECISIONS



Mortgage lenders are checking borrowers' credentials, as income profiles are becoming increasingly disparate
Page 26

CAVING IN



The owner of an old cottage drew a blank when trying to excess subsidence and flooding risks from his insurance
Page 28

THE POUND

US $ ..... 1.5367 (+0.0114)
German mark .. 2.4690 (+0.0072)
Exchange index ..... 80.0 (+0.3)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 ..... 2847.0 (-2.3)
Dow Jones ... 3454.35 (+6.36)*
Nikkei Avge .. 20474.15 (-58.63)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 6%
3-month Interbank..... 6 1/16-5 15/16%
US Federal Funds..... 2 7/8%*
3-month Treas Bills.. 2.95-2.94%*
Long Bond 6.95%*

CURRENCIES

New York:	London:
£:$ 1.5380*	£:$ 1.5380
$:DM ..1.6025*	£:DM 2.4624
$:Swfr..1.4500*	£:Swfr...2.2348
$:Ffr ...5.4045*	£:Ffr 8.3090
$:Yen ..110.90*	£:Yen ...170.57
£:SDR ..1.0852	£:ECU ..1.2629

London Forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing ($):
AM 368.60 ..... PM 368.20
Close 367.90-368.30
New York:
Comex 368.45-368.95*

RETAIL PRICES

RPI..... 139.3 March (1.9%)
* Denotes midday trading price

LIG censured over briefings to analysts

By Carl Mortished

■ A ruling by the Stock Exchange and proposed new insider dealing laws will change the informal ways securities houses do business with big companies

A CHANGE in the way companies informally advise investors of variations in their fortunes, to smoothe the workings of the stock market, has been heralded by a pioneering ruling of the London Stock Exchange.

The exchange has criticised London International Group, the condoms and photoprocessing combine, for disclosing price-sensitive information to selected professionals without making a profits warning on the exchange's formal information service. The exchange said that a senior employee of the company contacted 13 analysts and four institutional investors on February 1 to warn them that their profit forecasts for the year ending March 31 were too high because of an anticipated loss on photoprocessing.

LIG's directors authorised the release of some general information but according to the exchange: "On at least three occasions, he exceeded his authority by giving additional information indicating the amount of the reduction in the expected profit. In the view of the exchange both the information that the board authorised to be disclosed and the additional information disclosed by the employee were of a kind that should have been notified to the company announcements office".

LIG replied: "The board does not believe that the company should be singled out for criticism since the information ... authorised to be disclosed was of the type generally communicated to the market in this manner."

Informal briefings have been used by forms as a way of feeding information into the market, avoiding big share price movements when results are announced. This can disadvantage other investors. Proponents of the system argue that announcements on the formal news service alert only professionals, leaving in the dark private investors who could be alerted by their brokers. This week, both Tomkins and Rank Organisation issued formal statements alongside briefings.

In LIG's case, however, the price movement was sharp. Analysts adjusted their forecasts by up to 10 per cent and LIG shares fell 9 per cent on the day.

While their is no suggestion of anything unlawful at LIG, the ruling follows concern in the City that draft legislation on insider dealing in the criminal justice bill could catch stockbrokers involved in "brokers' lunches".

Public criticism is the Stock Exchange's only weapon to enforce its rules barring suspension of dealings. The exchange's listing rules, the Yellow Book, oblige companies to inform the announcements office to avoid false markets in shares.

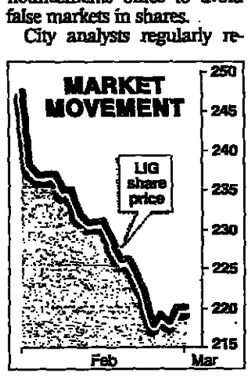
City analysts regularly receive informal briefings from companies which form the basis of brokers' reports and forecasts. But critics say the meetings, often on a one-to-one basis, can result in the company steering the analyst to a profit figure.

The head of research at one leading stockbroker said there was wide scope for tip-offs: "Companies prefer to avoid unpleasant suprises and you can easily manipulate things by making a few telephone calls. The Stock Exchange wants them to stand up and declare the bad news."

The exchange's action followed warnings earlier this year to City institutions that there would be a crackdown on private briefings to analysts and investors.

In April, Thorold Mackie, of Bell Lawrie White, the broker, was convicted in Edinburgh of insider trading and fined £25,000. Mr Mackie had downgraded his profit forecast for Shanks & McEwan, the waste management company, after a meeting in September 1991 with its chairman, Peter Runciman. Mr Mackie did not himself profit from the information but two colleagues sold shares in advance of a formal announcement.

One broker said: "It is going to make people's lives much more difficult. Directors are going to have to be much more careful about what they say" Others argued that the briefings systems devalued research. One said: "It doesn't benefit us — there is no value from an analyst's research if everybody is told what the profits will be."





JOHN GILES/PA

Uncertain future: tears as miners and their families mark the closure of their pit

Last post sounds for Grimethorpe

ON A wet, gloomy day, more than 100 miners and their families marched from the village of Grimethorpe, near Barnsley, to the colliery that gave it existence, ostensibly to commemorate colliers who had died there but really to mourn the death of the pit itself, a week ago, after 99 years of producing coal.

Only 16 men will be left, preserving the Yorkshire pit on a care-and-maintenance basis. The renowned Grimethorpe Colliery Band headed a long procession as it wound past grimy red-brick terraced houses and a row of shops — some already displaying forlorn For Sale signs. At the deserted pit yard, two wreaths were laid outside the pit baths. Grimethorpe was one the most controversial of the ten initial closures planned by British Coal in the programme first publicly revealed last October, partly because it had plenty of coal left.

The pit finally died when the remaining 220 miners accepted enhanced redundancy terms. Ken Hancock, National Union of Mineworkers' branch secretary, said: "Our lives are here, what are we supposed to do now?"

Business failures continue to fall

By Janet Bush
Economics Correspondent

COMPANY insolvencies fell for the second quarter running, confirming that the corporate sector is beginning to recover along with the broad economy.

Figures from the British Chambers of Commerce showed that company failures in England and Wales fell to 5,796 in the three months to March, 5 per cent below the number recorded in the previous quarter but only 2 per cent lower than a year ago.

Richard Brown, policy director with the BCC, said: "This is very good news indeed. At the beginning of the year we said it was premature to announce the end of recession. Today's figures provide evidence that the economic tide is turning, perhaps even quicker than many expected."

Alan Hughes, chairman of the Association of British Factors and Discounters, said: "At last we are seeing light at the end of the tunnel for small businesses." He said that smaller firms struggling with bad debts and late payment of bills had been given a breathing space.

The news was less positive for individuals: personal bankruptcies rose to 10,223 for the three months to March, 4 per cent up on the previous quarter and 17 per cent up on the same period last year. Personal bankruptcies have been rising since the third quarter of 1989 and show no sign of stopping.

Next week sees a clutch of economic statistics on the economy, eagerly awaited to see if the momentum of recovery has continued after the announcement of tax increases in the March Budget. Retail sales are expected to show another rise in April and headline inflation is expected to have remained unchanged.

Unemployment is expected to have risen after falling for the previous two months, and industrial production in March is predicted to have fallen because of lower North Sea oil production.

Shares shrug off CD price enquiry

THE widely expected monopolies commission enquiry into compact disc pricing caused little alarm in the City yesterday. Shares in Thorn EMI rose 16p to 837p as analysts dismissed the threat to profits. Thorn has only 13 per cent of its music interests in the UK (Jon Ashworth writes).

Shares in WH Smith, Britain's biggest record retailer, fell 5p to 439p before ending the day unchanged. Kingfisher, which owns Woolworth, saw its shares slip 2p to 609p.

Criticism grows, page 21

Lloyd's sets accounts poser

By Sarah Bagnall, Insurance Correspondent

MORE than a quarter of Lloyd's syndicates are set to leave their 1990 underwriting years open because of the greater uncertainty created by the insurance market's business plan.

In accordance with the three-year accounting period at Lloyd's, syndicates are in the process of trying to close their 1990 years of account. Normally, a syndicate would pay a premium to close 1990 into the 1993 underwriting year — unless its future liabilities were unknown.

However, a proposal outlined in last month's business plan has led auditors to demand that many syndicates leave their 1990 years open.

The accountancy profession's concern is based on the need to ensure "fairness" to names. They are worried they will fail to perform this duty if syndicates, with specific liabilities, are closed. This is because the plan proposes to strip out liabilities from 1985 and years prior to that, and reinsure them into a new vehicle, NewCo.

Auditors have no idea of the premiums NewCo will charge to take on the liabilities, which are mainly American pollution and asbestosis claims. This uncertainty means in turn that managing agents cannot know what premiums to charge for closing their 1990 accounts.

Yesterday, Lloyd's issued guidance to managing agents and auditors, saying that in cases where there were substantial liabilities for 1985 and prior years, syndicate accounts should make "suitable disclosure by way of a note in the accounts". The note, from Bob Hewes, a director of regulatory services, recognised that the year might be left open.

US managers aim to jump-start Tatra

By Colin Narbrough
World Trade Correspondent

THE fortunes of Tatra, the struggling Czech car and truck maker, look set for an early lift following the arrival of a team of executives from the American motor industry to control, and take an equity stake in, the firm.

The Czech combination of high skills and rock-bottom wages, plus a government pursuing super-rapid privatisation, have persuaded Gerald Greenwald, vice-president of Chrysler during the restructuring in the eighties, to take over as chairman of Tatra.

The experts he brings to Tatra, including Jack Rutherford, David Shelby and Pierre Lagasse, former senior executives of International Harvester, the US farm plant maker, have the task of restoring a key part of the Czech motor industry after decades of communist neglect.

Mr Greenwald said the team, at the invitation of Tatra's main shareholders, management and trade unions, will initially seek to ensure quality control, higher sales and improved after-sales service. In return, the team will get a fixed annual fee and a 15 per cent stake in Tatra.

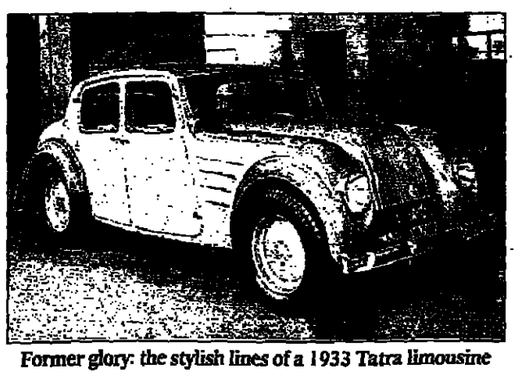
Tatra, one of Europe's automotive pioneers, produces a range of heavy trucks and luxury limousines, famed for their huge air-cooled engines. Although the current version of the Tatra saloon is considered a design disaster, the limousines for the former communist bosses have seen better days.

Until the seventies, Tatra produced a remarkable, aerodynamic car with a big central headlight.

Mr Greenwald's team is not entering uncharted waters in the Czech Republic. The German car industry has recognised the advantages of locating production there for some time. VW, Europe's biggest carmaker, now includes Skoda, the Czech car company, which showed the best profits performance of the VW stable last year. Recent German estimates put Czech wages for equivalent skilled labour as low as a sixteenth of those paid in west Germany.

Vaclav Klaus, the Czech prime minister, is an ardent advocate of the free market. He has forced the pace of privatisation, launching the mass voucher scheme involving 1,500 firms last year.

In the former Soviet bloc, the Tatra limousine had ony one serious rival — the Russian Zil, the transport of Kremlim leaders even today. Although Russia's privatisation programme has a long way to go to catch up with the Czechs, Moscow managed to sell off Zil earlier this year.



Former glory: the stylish lines of a 1933 Tatra limousine

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*** Difference between contracts of leading UK pension provider. Figure based on 25 year term, £200 per month increasing at 10% p.a.. Assumes growth rate of 13% p.a. from which all charges have been deducted including annual fund management charge.**

Firms face sudden end to pensions holiday

BY SARAH BAGNALL

THE pension fund contribution holiday is over. After years of surplus, when funds' assets outstripped expected liabilities, many companies are expected to have to restart payments.

Urgent checks are being carried out by many corporate headquarters after British Telecom's announcement on Thursday that it had had to bolster its pension fund by £550 million, to cover benefits for early leavers. The company also said it would make annual contributions of £250 million. In addition to those measures, it is injecting a further £800 million before March 31 next year.

The worry for companies is that BT's pension fund swung from a £1.7 billion surplus to a £700 million deficit — and all within three months. This brought to a sudden end a three-year contributions holiday.

Pension holidays have boosted the profits of many big companies. Under Statement of Standard Accounting Practice 24, companies can spread forward the benefit of the holiday in their profit and loss accounts over employees' service lives. Mike Brown, at the National Association of Pension Funds, said 37 per cent of members were taking pension fund holidays; a further 16 per cent were making reduced contributions.

Last year, Bacon & Woodrow, the firm of actuaries, calculated that the pension funds of the UK's top 100 companies had funding levels ranging from 81 per cent to 196 per cent. The median funding level was 122 per cent — a 22 per cent surplus. New actuarial calculations would, however, reveal a very different picture. Funding calculations have been hit by the Budget, which cut the tax credit on share dividends from 25 per cent to 20 per cent, while liabilities will have risen for companies that have made large-scale staff cut-backs, leaving pension benefits intact.

In BT's case, analysts calculate that the Budget changes knocked £500 million off the value of the pension fund. (Equities, which caused the pension fund surpluses, tend to make up 80 per cent of an average fund's investments.) The need to meet the pension commitments of staff leaving early cost a further £550 million. BT's terms were generous and are unlikely to be matched by many other companies. None the less, redundancies will increase a fund's liabilities if staff are paid pensions early.

However, to limit these adverse effects, companies are said to be thinking of changing the assumptions in their pension fund calculations. One would be to reduce the rate at which salaries are assumed to be increasing. This would lower a scheme's liabilities.

Comment, page 23

Mark gains most from devaluations

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

EUROPEAN currency markets absorbed the devaluation of the Spanish and Portuguese currencies with relative calm yesterday, despite uncertainties about the results of next week's Danish referendum and clear signals from the Bundesbank that it is not going to rush into the next German rate cut.

The main beneficiary of the devaluations was the mark, which firmed against most currencies, though the pound closed at DM2.4690 compared with Thursday's DM2.4618. The peseta held steady against the mark while the Portuguese escudo fell back a little.

There was no damaging ripple effect to other currencies in the exchange-rate mechanism and a general sense of satisfaction that Spain had moved early to counter further financial market speculation against the peseta, so providing an example of a more flexible exchange-rate mechanism with more frequest realignments, called for after September's ERM crisis.

The German currency also profited from news that German engineering employers and unions had agreed a pay deal that should end 12-day-old strikes in eastern Germany which briefly spilled over into the West. The unions won a deal that will give eastern workers 80 per cent of western wages this year but delay full parity for two years to 1996. The mark's relief that the strikes are to end was muted because of the inflationary consequences of the deal for Germany.

However, further evidence of Bundesbank caution on cutting interest rates also underpinned the mark.

The Bundesbank pushed up money market interest rates for the second day running in a move designed to head off expectations of official rate cuts next week. In addition, Lothar Mueller, a member of the bank's central council, said that a sharp drop in short-term interest rates might lead to a damaging rise in long-term rates as markets became concerned that the bank was compromising on its fight against inflation.

However, speculation remains that the Bundesbank may cut official rates next week, with the central council again outvoted by regional bank heads.

Economists at Nikko Securities said the monetarists were mounting a damage limitation exercise to salvage what anti-inflationary credibility remained with the German central bank, but if growth continued to weaken this would not prevent further cuts.

The Spanish and Portuguese devaluations further damage German exports following competitiveness losses from earlier devaluations.



Team players: Norman Adsetts, centre, with Frank Prust, left, and Bill Forrester

Sheffield Insulations to double in size

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

SHEFFIELD Insulations Group, the distributor of insulation and related products, is more than doubling in size with the acquisition of WMS Group, a private architectural ironmongery group, for £52.9 million in cash and shares.

The cash element of the deal, £47.1 million, is being funded by a three-for-two rights issue, fully underwritten by Samuel Montagu, at deeply-discounted 135p a share, raising £49.9 million. Panmure Gordon is broker to the issue, which is said to have been oversubscribed twice and placed with 50 institutions.

WMS, which supplies a wide range of ironmongery products, mainly to double-glazing companies, from its warehouse in West Yorkshire, made £5 million pre-tax profit last year, with a defined profit of £6.5 million in 1993.

Sheffield says WMS's operations have continuing, strong growth prospects, and that there are significant opportunities to expand the business.

Bill Forrester, Sheffield's managing director, said: "We are delighted to be making this acquisition." The deal, creating a £100 million firm, will cut the 55 per cent stake in Sheffield, controlled by chairman Norman Adsetts' family, to about 20 per cent, making the shares more marketable.

Frank Prust, finance director, expects to pay an interim dividend of 1.8p a share and a final 3.6p a share, making a 5.4p total this year. Analysts expect 1993 pre-tax profits of £3.8 million (£2.95 million).

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Ladbroke shares rise despite costs warning

LADBROKE shares rose 6p to 169p despite Cyril Stein, the chairman, stating in the annual report that "improved overall operating results are... being offset by increased costs". He adds that the group's cash flow continues to be positive and says the results of its racing and property divisions are showing significant improvement on last year.

The report says: "Texas Homecare is trading reasonably well. Hilton is performing satisfactorily although, as an international business, it continues to be affected in those countries which remain in recession." Debts are shown at 53 per cent of shareholders' funds in a balance sheet that includes £832.6 million of intangible assets. Of that, £376.7 million is for the Hilton and Vernons brand names and £455.9 million for the licences of UK betting offices. Ladbroke investors are being asked to approve an enhanced share alternative to the final dividend. It is worth 50 per cent more than the final cash dividend of 6.23p per share.

Aberdeen accepts bid

ABERDEEN Petroleum has succumbed to a hostile £8.76 million bid by Pittencrieff, a rival oil and gas explorer. The Aberdeen board said that in the absence of a higher cash offer it would recommend to shareholders that they accept Pittencrieff's increased bid, up from £7.5 million, but not its alternative all-paper offer. Earlier this week, Pittencrieff reported a rise in pre-tax profits to £4.5 million for 1992 from £3.5 million previously, lower than analysts had been expecting before the company issued a profits warning.

Bad debts hit Appleby

APPLEBY Westward, the grocery distributor that runs the Spar and VG franchises in the South West, suffered a 25 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £899,000 after an increase in bad debts and a fall in turnover to £70.7 million (£72.9 million) in the year to end-February. According to Roger Harvey, the chairman, Appleby's customers are suffering the effects of recession and from the competitive pressure of Sunday trading by the big food retailers. Earnings fell from 20.7p to 15.7p a share and the total dividend rises from 8.8p to 9p.

Osprey to raise £1.3m

OSPREY Communications is moving away from marketing services to focus on its core advertising business. In a series of deals that are accompanied by a one-for-three rights issue at 25p a share, the group is raising £1.3 million. The group is selling its marketing services division to managers for up to £2.2 million. That is likely to result in an exceptional loss of £2.1 million in Osprey's interim figures to end-May. Osprey shares rose 6½p to 32½p. . Osprey is also buying The SMS Communications Group for £1.63 million.

BM dilutes holdings

BM Group, the construction and engineering equipment maker, plans to dilute its holdings in its worldwide distribution companies to reduce borrowings. The move forms part of the group's restructuring plan to cut debt and dispose of loss-making activities. BM's aim is to cut bank borrowings and finance leases to £79 million, from £105 million, at end-December and further financial obligations to £35 million from £41 million.

Chiltern loss deepens



DIFFICULT trading conditions saw pre-tax losses at Chiltern Radio, the local radio station operator whose chairman is Peter Burton, left, deepen to £325,000 in the six months to end-March, compared with a taxable deficit of £179,000 last time. A marketing effort helped turnover climb 7.8 per cent to £2.75 million and boost the group's audience. The loss per share increased to 3.4p, against a loss of 1.9p last time. There is again no interim dividend.

Bowthorpe buys in US

BOWTHORPE, the electronics and electrical group, has exchanged conditional contracts to buy 81 per cent of United Sciences Inc, a manufacturer of equipment to monitor smokestack pollutants that is based in America. The purchase price, not exceeding $14.3 million, is to be met by a cash payment of up to $3.3 million and the issue of new fully-paid Bowthorpe ordinary shares. USI earned pre-tax profits of $1.6 million for the eight months to end-February.

Unilever shares slip

BY GEORGE SIVELL, CITY EDITOR

UNILEVER shares fell 38p to £10.66 after the worldwide food and consumer products group reported a 7 per cent rise in first-quarter pre-tax profits to £420 million.

The market had been looking for a little more but Unilever suffered a £4 million decrease because of American retirement benefits and a £15 million fall from the switch to the new FRS3 reporting standard, analysts said.

Michael Perry, the chairman, said: "In Europe there was some increase in sales volume, particularly in Germany. Operating profit was unchanged, however, partly as a result of higher exceptional charges." In North America, a change in the way post-retirement health care benefits are accounted for has already resulted in a £218 million prior-year reduction in retained profits.

In Europe, Unilever's profits slipped from £270 million to £269 million on sales up from £3.4 billion to £3.5 billion. Last year's first quarter contained £6 million of profits from agribusiness, which has now been disposed of. Unilever says Germany was strong but Britain remained difficult. In Europe generally, consumer businesses grew, whereas industrial supply business was down.

Swiftcall

We would like to make clear that although Swiftcall had its licence to operate a simple resale telephone business rejected by the trade department, it is still able to offer an international service at the discounted rates detailed in the article published by *The Times* on May 14. For example calls can be made all day to America at 25p a minute using a pre-charged card.

Correction

PWS Holdings' brokerage income for the six months ended March 31, 1993 has increased to £8.4 million from £8 million and not as stated in *The Times* yesterday.

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How BT has rung the changes — Business, The Sunday Times tomorrow

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BUSINESS PROFILE: **Gordon Roddick**

Expert in the technique of Body building

Until now, the Body Shop chairman has avoided interviews but Melinda Wittstock discovered that he is no one's silent partner


TONY WHITE

Behind every successful woman: Gordon Roddick provides the solid rock around which his wife can whip up her maelstrom of ideas

Strolling leisurely down Arundel high street several years ago, Gordon Roddick bumped into an acquaintance he had not seen in months. "My, isn't she doing well," plumped the ageing widow. Roddick barely got out an "Isn't she" before he was interrupted with the inevitable: "So, what do *you* do all day, then?"

"I told her I puttered around, read the papers, did a bit of gardening, you know. When she walked away, I could hear her whisper under her breath, 'damned idle bastard'. This has been happening to me for years," he says, clearly tired of being taken for window dressing.

In the public mind, it is his wife of 23 years who is the creative dynamo behind the Body Shop's spectacular success. Anita, who began tinkering with lotions and potions in the family garage 18 years ago as Mr Roddick got ready to embark on a 2,000-mile horseback journey from Argentina to New York, is indisputably its public face. Not content merely to fill the world's bathrooms with exotic soaps, she has resolutely remained on the soapbox, preaching passionately about saving the environment and safeguarding human rights.

But the man behind the woman is the brains behind the business. The affable and unassuming Mr Roddick has proved a remarkably talented and visionary manager, avoiding the financial excesses that proved the downfall of other eighties *arrivistes* while devising an innovative and highly efficient franchising system that is now proving to be the secret of Body Shop's surprisingly successful international expansion. He has quietly built up a £365 million business with 900 shops in 41 countries in 19 languages by letting local entrepreneurs put up the capital for Body Shop's retail expansion while ensuring they follow strict management guidelines issued from the green-roofed pagoda of Body Shop's Littlehampton headquarters.

Yet remarkably little is known about Gordon Roddick, who has until now avoided all attempts by national newspaper profilers to shift the limelight away from his combative and controversial wife. "I've always preferred to be judged by results rather than the things I say," he insists. "But over the past year I've become concerned that people haven't grasped what we are trying to do. We're not half-crazed environmentalist drug addicts with open-toed sandals."

Could this sudden need to speak out mean that Body Shop dogma has been run over by City karma? The "pinstripe dinosaurs", as Anita once dubbed the inhabitants of the Square Mile, suddenly became impatient last year with the green principles they once tolerated as a good marketing tool, putting into doubt Body Shop's ability to expand internationally while sustaining growth at home in a recession against rivals pushing cheaper imitations. By last September, the value of the Roddicks' personal fortune had plummeted by £56 million after a profits warning sent shares sliding 41 per cent to 158p, down from a 370p peak earlier in the year. The Body Shop started talking of sales being driven by quality not "peripheral issues" such as the environment and opposition to animal testing — and suddenly it stood accused of abandoning its principles for the bottom line.

But revealing its first fall in pre-tax profits last Wednesday, Mr Roddick delivered an uncharacteristically strident defence of the clean and green image. "Some of the less friendly observers, and Body Shop watchers, have determined that we will abandon our principles and reveal ourselves as shallow cynical exploiters. We must disappoint them," he warned the City. "Businesses that have the approach of 'profit at any cost' are no longer appropriate in these times. Corporate pollution must not land up as a cost to taxpayers... Quite simply put, we walk our talk."

His strong words are a warning to the dinosaurs, who may well have met their match in the unusual, but seemingly untameable animal that is the Body Shop.

A free spirit with little time for convention, Mr Roddick is every bit as scathing as his wife about British business culture and the City's shortsighted obsession with profits over people. But he betrays far less vitriol than the explosive Mrs Roddick, who barely lets him get a word in, let alone finish a sentence, when she bursts into his office to see how his first foray into the full-length interview is proceeding.

She interrupts time and time again with words more strident than his own, gazing out the window and tapping her fingers furiously on the pane and walking noisily around the room whenever her husband, who suffers from a slight stutter, answers a question. After 23 years of marriage, with as much time spent working together as living together, it hardly comes as a surprise that there should be disagreement and tension.

"When I first saw her I thought this is it. Our arguments began on Day 3," he admits when his wife leaves the room. "I enjoy arguing and I hate that type of relationship where it is important to establish who is stronger than whom and who wears the pants. I've got no time for that." The quietly confident 51-year-old Scot is the rock around which the Anita maelstrom swirls. "She would view my role as hugely uninteresting and sort of boring, but I wouldn't be upset or offended by that... I agree with all her views, but they need to be balanced by a great performance, otherwise there is no platform to stand on."

A reluctant hero, he is modest about his achievements. He quit school at 16 without any idea what he wanted to do with his life. "I looked at all the damn careers, but I didn't want any of it. I wasn't idle or unco-operative, I just hated school and all the values they tried to ram into me." For more than a decade he travelled to the globe's remotest corners, often sleeping rough when he wasn't toiling on a sheep farm, tin mine or railway line. An adventurer who retains his appetite for different cultures as well as a passion for polo-playing, he once paddled up the Amazon for 1,200 miles in a canoe "with a crazy Argentine who had escaped from jail for trying to kill his wife".

By his mid-twenties he was writing poetry and short stories. "I knew then I wanted to be Tolstoy, but I hadn't anything to say. It was a huge problem." Citing Henry Miller, Anais Nin, Oscar Wilde and P J O'Rourke as his favourite authors, Mr Roddick plans to pick up his pen when he relinquishes the chairman's seat for a non-executive role as a travelling troubleshooter.

But he is taking delight in the poison-pen antics of his younger daughter, Samantha, 21, an aspiring campaigning journalist who has founded an "extreme and extremely rude" journal in Vancouver called *Cockroach*. She is now in London working on *The Big Issue*, the magazine for the homeless that has trebled its circulation to 150,000 since Mr Roddick co-founded it with an old friend almost two years ago. His other daughter, Justine, 23, has spent a year opening Body Shops in the US. "I would hate to be in her position, but it's not bad for her to learn how to cope. She'd never come crying to me."

But he remains obsessed with challenging British management, which he claims "may well be the worst in the entire world". Mr Roddick, who has introduced profit sharing and new rules forcing job applicants to submit to interviews by their underlings, says: "British managers just have to start to trust their workforce. They put so much ingenuity into being negative; all they have to do is turn that around and use the ingenuity to be positive. There's no use whingeing and waiting for the government: industry has to go ahead and create new ideas for itself."

Both Roddicks appear hopelessly enamoured of North American culture, which admires rather than attacks those who are brave enough to try something new. But as he embarks on further expansion, he denies money is his motivation. "We've given heaps of money away. It's not our interest... Sure, we have two nice and comfortable homes, I have a few horses and life is too short to drink cheap wine," he says. He professes a weakness for Body Shop's Mostly Men shaving cream, Activist cologne and Tangarine Beer shampoo. "But I would never have gone ahead back in 1976 if I'd ever dreamt I'd have all this. I haven't any ambition other than to do what I do extremely well. If I dropped dead today, well, I haven't done everything, but I've had a great life — it makes the future much easier to handle."

Critics turn up the volume over compact disc prices

The monopoly enquiry could put pressure on music firms' profits, says Jon Ashworth


Price of stardom: a Queen CD costs less in America

NOT even the record companies, for all their forcefully expressed indignation, can be too surprised that pricing of compact discs is being placed under the spotlight again. The monopolies commission enquiry announced yesterday is likely to bring uncertainty for almost a year. The industry's ability to control imports is being questioned.

The most surprising aspect of the MMC reference is that it has taken so long. In April last year, the Office of Fair Trading terminated a 15-month enquiry into CD pricing, saying it could find no evidence that the record companies were charging too much.

Sir Gordon Borrie, then director-general, said the price gap between CDs and cassettes could "not be explained by higher production costs or higher handling and selling costs", but concluded that no monopolies commission enquiry was justified. His successor, Sir Bryan Carsberg, reopened the enquiry only three months later.

The City's attention will focus on Thorn EMI, the diversified leisure group that added to its music business by buying Virgin's record business for £560 million last year, and on WH Smith, which also owns Our Price and a half-share in the Virgin Megastore chain, making it Britain's biggest record retailer. Kingfisher, owner of Woolworths, may also suffer. Big labels such as EMI, PolyGram, WEA/Warner and CBS/Sony together account for about 62 per cent of CD sales. WH Smith, Our Price, Virgin, Woolworth and HMV dominate the high street market.

Thorn EMI has 17 per cent of world music sales. PolyGram, quoted in Amsterdam and ultimately controlled by Philips, is the market leader outside North America, with an estimated 22 per cent of the European market.

In January, WH Smith said it thought CDs were overpriced and accused the record companies of driving customers away. It blamed high prices for a 10 per cent decline in recorded music sales in the past two years and called for an immediate £2 cut, the same figure adopted by the Commons national heritage select committee in its hostile report on the industry this week.

The Consumers' Association estimates that a £12.99 CD costs only £1.05 to manufacture. VAT accounts for £2.27, while the artist, publisher and producer share £1.76. The record company gets £4.66 and £3.25 goes to the retailer.

The British Phonographic Industry (BPI), which represents 150 record companies and ultimately speaks for the 50,000 jobs in the UK record industry, defends CD pricing on two fronts.

First, it argues that CD prices have fallen 33 per cent in real terms since CDs were introduced in the UK. Second, it counters the argument that CDs in America sometimes cost only half as much by pointing out that many goods are cheaper across the Atlantic. Britain, it says, is simply more expensive.

In a submission to MPs in January, the BPI said there was no evidence to suggest that CD prices in the UK were disproportionate to those charged in other European countries or in America. It argued instead that prices of tapes and vinyl records were too low and pointed to increasing losses due to home copying — more than £10 billion a year in Europe alone.

A decade after their launch in Britain, CDs account for more than half of UK recorded music sales. In 1991, £617 million, or 51 per cent of the total of £1.2 billion spent on all formats, went on CDs.

Despite their popularity — 85 million CDs were sold in 1991 — the BPI says the high-risk nature of the recording business wipes out much of the gains. About 80 to 85 per cent of new recordings released are unsuccessful. One successful CD sale carries the cost of nine others.

Production costs break down into: the making of the master recording; signing fees; artists' advances and royalties; and advertising and promotional expenses. While the cost of manufacturing CDs may have come down, the BPI argues that many production costs, and particularly advances and royalties for artists, have soared since CDs first began rolling off production lines.

Critics of CD prices draw comparisons with cassette tapes — which, they say, can be produced for the same amount, yet typically sell for £2.50 less.

The typical retail price of a CD remained at £11.99 from the time the format was introduced in 1982 until last year, when it went up to an average of £12.99. The BPI says that if prices had kept up with inflation — the retail price index rose 63 per cent over the period in question — a compact disc would now cost about £19.52.

A clever financial exercise, but one which is likely to cut little ice with MPs and other critics.

Comparisons with the cost of goods in America make interesting reading. Figures produced in July last year show that a *Queen's Greatest Hits* CD cost £8.54 in America, compared with £11.99 in the UK. A Toyota car selling for £25,443 across the Atlantic cost £11,000 more in Britain. A pair of Levi 501 jeans costing £36.99 in London could be bought for half the price in New York.

Critics say such comparisons are irrelevant. Britain may be more expensive, but the issue here is CDs, not jeans or cars.

The BPI's last word on America is that prices are lower thanks to economies of scale. The UK is the fourth-largest music market in the world, according to Hoare Govett, the stockbroking firm, but is a quarter the size of the US market. Energy and transportation costs are lower and catalogues are more limited. UK record shops have more titles but sell fewer of them, further bumping up costs.

CD sales have provided record companies with a valuable prop during the recession. Hoare Govett says they "have protected the 'value line' of the world music industry" over the past three years. "In countries like the US and the UK, which have both endured recession, the value line has been much less heavily affected than the volume line."

In other words, sales have gone down but profits have held up. MPs and others will say this is hardly surprising, since the £2.50 "mark-up" will have provided an ample cushion.

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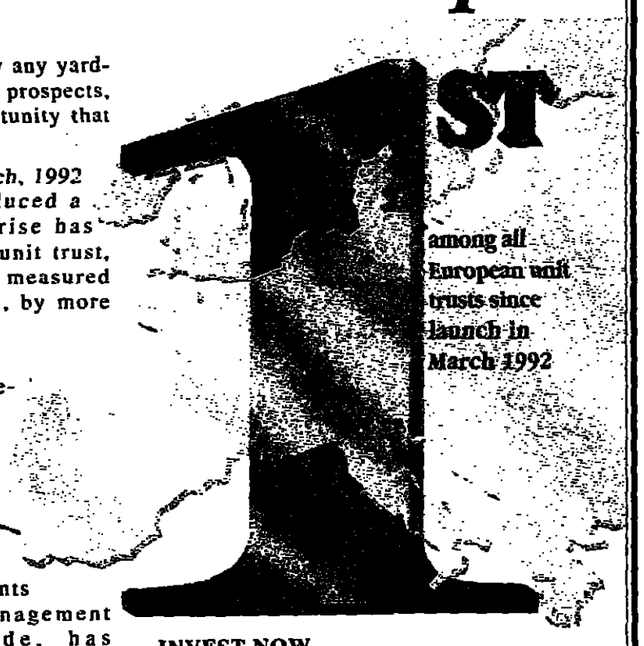
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Telegraph advances to £19m

FIRST quarter pre-tax profits of The Telegraph, publisher of *The Daily Telegraph* and *Sunday Telegraph*, rose from £9.5 million to £19.1 million in the three months to March 31. Of that, £6.5 million was profit on the sale of the group's 13 per cent of Trinity International Holdings. Operating profits were £10.4 million (£8.5 million) on a turnover of £62.4 million (£58.6 million).

Quarterly net earnings, excluding the TIH sale profit, were 5.8p (5p) a share.

Arcon hopeful

Arcon International, the Irish natural resources group, is poised to receive planning permission from Kilkenny County Council for the development of a zinc-lead mine at Galmoy, County Kilkenny.

Severn buys

Severn Trent, through ST Environmental Services, its US offshoot, has paid $9.9 million for AM-TEX Corporation, a water and waste water contractor of Houston, Texas.

Benson slides

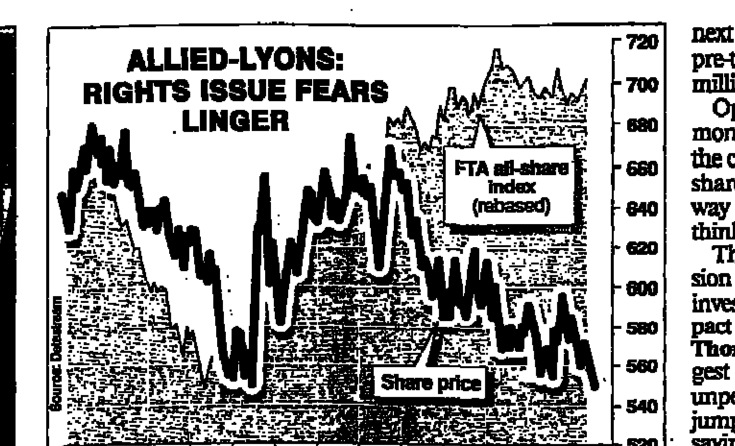
Shares in Benson Group fell 4½p to 16p after the Wolverhampton specialist engineer issued a profits warning.

STOCK MARKET

Bears forced to run for cover



Jackaman: shares trimmed



THE bears were caught on the hop by the London stock market, which staged a resilient performance in the wake of heavy overnight losses on Wall Street.

The FT-SE 100 index, down almost 12 points by around mid-morning, conducted an impressive rear-guard action after lunch to reduce the losses to a minimum by the close. The index ended 2.3 lower at 2,847.0, a rise on the week of 53.3.

The bears had been expecting heavy falls in London after a 34-point fall in the Dow Jones industrial average on Thursday. In the event, selling pressure was light for most of the day, with investors encouraged by several bullish trading statements indicating that the recovery is gathering pace. A small opening rise on Wall Street in resumed trading sent the bears running for cover and signalled the start of London's rally. Turnover was low, with only 620 million shares traded.

Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch household products group, added to the market's nervousness in early trading with disappointing first quarter figures, which left the shares 40p lower at £10.64. Pre-tax profits were at the bottom end of expectations, up from £388 million to £420 million. Brokers are worried that Unilever will have to increase spending to protect its market share in the US from increased competition.

London International, the Durex manufacturer, slipped 1p to 185p after receiving a censure from the Stock Exchange for warning a select group of analysts and fund managers that profit forecasts for the year to last March were being pitched too high.

BT showed resilience despite Thursday's worse than expected figures and the news that it was having to make good a pension fund deficit which is likely to cost more than £1 billion. The shares ended the session up 10½p at 414½p, indicating the BT3 sell-off was back on target.

BP fell 4½p to 320½p after an overnight agency cross of 21 million shares at 327½p carried out by Warburg Securities. **Ladbroke** rose 6p to 169p after Cyril Stein, the chairman, gave an encouraging review of trading prospects at the annual meeting despite a warning that interest charges were rising. He said that racing and property results were showing a significant improvement and Texas Homecare was trading reasonably well. Cash flow continues to be positive.

Lord Blakenham, chairman of **Pearson**, the publishing, leisure and merchant banking group, was also positive about trading prospects at the group's annual meeting. He said the overall performance of the group was improving and even currency factors would weigh in its favour. The shares rose 9p to 448p.

BOC Group rose 17p to *693p before interim figures next week expected to show pre-tax profits up from £162 million to £180 million.*

Option buying before next month's figures lifted **Boots**, the chemist, 13p to 448p. The shares have come back a long way recently, and brokers think them oversold.

The monopolies commission has confirmed it will investigate the price of compact discs in Britain. But **Thorn EMI**, one of the biggest CD producers, appeared unperturbed, with the price jumping 16p to 837p after saying it welcomed the enquiry. Brokers said confirmation of the MMC move flushed out the bears, forcing them to cover positions.

The drinks sector was flat on the back of a series of profit downgradings and following hard on the heels of disappointing figures from **Grand Metropolitan**, 7p lower at 415p. Cazenove, the broker, is believed to have trimmed its profit forecasts for **Allied-Lyons**, where Michael Jackaman is chairman, 13p down at 545p, **Bass**, off 9p at 525p, and **Whitbread 'A'**, 6½p off at 481p. All three companies are due to report next week.

MICHAEL CLARK

WALL STREET

Dow takes early dip

New York — *Shares fell in early trading, leaving the Dow Jones industrial average four points lower at 3,444.*

☐ **Tokyo** — The market slid on arbitrage unwinding. The Nikkei average fell 58.63 to 20,474.15.

☐ **Sydney** — Gold fever lifted the all-ordinaries index 4.1 points to 1,698.5.

☐ **Hong Kong** — The market fell sharply on profit taking and the Hang Seng index lost 103.47 to 7,005.29.

☐ **Singapore** — Shares rebounded to a record high. The Straits Times industrial index ended at 1,863.39, up 4.68 points.

	May 14 midday	May 13 close
AMP Inc	62	62
AMR Corp	70	70
Abbott Labs	26	26
Aetna Life	53	53
Ahmanson (HF)	17	17
Air Prod & Chem	43	42
Alberson's	55	55
Alcan Aluminm	18	18
Alco Standard	47	47
Allied Signal	64	63
Alum Co of Am	66	66
Amax	17	17
Amerada Hess	52	52
Amer Brands	30	31
Amer Cyanamid	51	51
Amer El Power	34	34
Amer Express	27	27
Amer Genl Corp	29	29
Amer Home Pr	65	64
Amer Intl	127	127
Amer Stores	41	41
Amer T & T	54	53
Ameritech	72	72
Amoco	55	55
Anheuser-Busch	50	50
Apple Computer	55	55
Archer Daniels	23	23
Arkla	9	9
Armco	7	7
Armstrng Wrld	31	30
Asarco	18	18
Ashland Oil	25	25
Atl Richfield	121	121
Auto Data Pro	48	48
Avery Dennison	30	30
Avon Products	54	54
Baker Hughes	27	27
Baltim Gas & El	24	24
Banc One	51	52
BankAmerica	45	45
Bank of NY	52	53
Bankers Tr NY	69	70
Barnett Banks	41	42
Bausch & Lomb	51	52
Baxter Intl	29	29
Becton Dicknsn	35	35
Bell Atlantic	52	52
BellSouth	51	51
Black & Decker	18	18
Block (H&R)	33	33
Boeing	40	39
Boise Cascade	26	26
Borden Inc	21	21
Bristol Myrs Sq	59	58
Browning Ferris	25	25
Burlington Nthn	54	55
CBS	231	233
CNA Financial	92	91
CPC Intl	43	43
CSX	72	73
Campbell Soup	40	39
Can Pacific	16	16
Cpd Cities ABC	516	516
Cpd Holdings	35	36
Carolina Pwr	31	31
Caterpillar	69	70
Central & SW	30	31
Champion Intl	33	33
Chase Manhat	29	29
Chemical Bk	37	37
Chevron Corp	86	87
Chrysler	42	42
Chubb Corp	86	86
Cigna Corp	61	61
Citicorp	26	27
Clorox	49	49
Coastal Corp	26	26
Coca Cola	39	39
Colgate-Palmolive	59	60
Columbia Gas	21	21
Commonw Ed	26	26
Compaq Comp	51	51
Comp Ass Int	26	26
Conagra	25	25
Cons Edison	33	33
Cons Nat Gas	51	51
Cons Rail	51	52
Cooper Inds	47	47
Corning Inc	34	34
Crown Cork	37	37
Dana Corp	49	49
Dayton Hudson	73	73
Deere	57	57
Delta Air Lines	58	58
Deluxe Corp	45	45
Detroit Edison	34	34
Digital Equip	46	45
Dillard Dept St	39	39
Disney (Walt)	39	38
Dominion Res	43	43
Donelley (RR)	27	28
Dover Corp	47	47
Dow Chemicals	54	54
Dow Jones	30	30
Dresser	20	21
Duke Power	38	38
Dun & Brdstreet	59	59
Du Pont	51	52
Eastman Kodak	51	52
Eaton Corp	85	85

	May 14 midday	May 13 close
Emerson Elec	58	58
Engelhard Corp	31	31
Enron Corp	58	57
Entergy Corp	33	33
Ethyl Corp	29	29
Exxon	63	63
FMC Corp	43	44
FPL Group	38	38
Federal Express	50	51
Fed Nat Mtge	76	77
First Chicago	38	38
First Interstate	53	54
First Union Rlty	11	11
Fleet Fnl Grp	29	30
Fluor Corp	39	39
Ford Motor	54	54
GTE Corp	35	35
Gannett	51	51
Gap Inc Del	35	35
Gen Cinema	35	35
Gen Dynamics	95	95
Gen Electric	92	92
Gen Mills	65	66
Gen Motors	40	40
Gen Reinsurance	112	112
Gen Signal	62	62
Genuine Parts	35	35
Georgia Pac	64	65
Gillette	52	52
Glaxo ADR	19	19
Goodrich (BF)	45	45
Goodyear Tire	39	39
Grace (W&R)	39	39
Grt Atl Pac Tea	28	29
Great Wstn Fin	16	16
Halliburton	40	40
Heinz (HJ)	37	38
Hercules	72	72
Hershey Foods	53	52
Hewlett Packard	78	76
Hilton Hotels	44	44
Home Depot	42	42
Homestake Mng	17	17
Honeywell	35	34
Household Intl	66	66
Houston Inds	44	44
Humana	10	10
ITT Corp	81	81
Illinois Tool	71	71
INCO	22	22
Ingersoll Rand	33	33
Inland Steel	25	25
Intel Corp	98	97
IBM	48	47
Intl Flav & Fr	114	114
Intl Paper	65	66
James River Va	20	20
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	43	42
K Mart	23	23
Kellogg	57	57
Kerr-McGee	51	51
Kimberly-Clark	48	48
Knight-Ridder	56	56
Lilly (Eli)	49	49
Limited Inc	22	22
LIN Brdcstng	88	88
Lincoln Nat	79	79
Litton	59	59
Liz Claiborne	34	35
Lockheed Corp	63	63
Louisiana Pac	62	63
MCI Commun	47	47
Marriott	25	25
Marsh & McLnn	89	88
Masco Corp	31	32
May Dept St	73	73
Maytag Corp	14	14
McCaw Cellular	40	40
McDonalds	48	48
McDonnell D	62	62
McGraw Hill	59	59
Mead Corp	44	44
Medtronic	68	67
Mellon Bk	53	53
Melville Corp	45	45
Merck Inc	37	36
Merrill Lynch	68	69
Minnesota Mine	113	114
Mobil Corp	69	69
Monsanto	54	54
Morgan (JP)	65	66
Motorola Inc	74	74
Natl Medical	8	8
Natl Semi	14	13
Natl Service Ind	26	26
Navistar Int	2	2
NBD Bancorp	30	30
NY Times A	27	28
Newmont Mng	50	50
Niag Mohawk	21	22
Nike B	72	72
NL Industries	4	3
Nordstrom	27	27
Norfolk Sthrn	61	61
Nthn State Pwr	44	44
Norwest Corp	49	49
Nynex Corp	82	82
Occidental Pet	22	22
Ohio Edison	23	24
Oracle Systems	38	38

	May 14 midday	May 13 close
Oryx Energy Co	22	22
Owens Corning	39	39
PNC Financial	30	31
PPG Industries	72	72
Paccar Inc	58	58
Pacificorp	17	17
Pac Enterprises	23	23
Pac Gas & Elect	32	32
Pac Telesis	46	46
Pall Corp	19	19
Panhandle East	22	22
Paramnt Comm	49	50
Parker Hannifin	30	31
Penney (JC)	45	44
Pennzoil	63	63
Pepsico	36	36
Pfizer	69	68
Phelps Dodge	45	46
Philadel Elec	28	29
Philip Morris	50	50
Phillips Pet	29	29
Pitney Bowes	41	41
Polaroid	34	35
Price Co	28	29
Primerica	45	45
Procter & Gmbl	49	48
Pub Serv E & G	33	33
Quaker Oats	69	69
Ralston Purina	47	47
Raychem Corp	42	42
Raytheon	56	56
Reebok Intl	37	37
Reynolds Metals	44	43
Roadway Srvcs	55	56
Rockwell Intl	31	31
Rohm & Haas	54	54
Royal Dutch	93	93
Rubbermaid	31	31
Safeco Corp	56	56
St Paul's Cos	81	82
Salomon Inc	36	36
Santa Fe S Pac	17	16
Sara Lee Corp	25	24
Scecorp	47	47
Schering Plough	65	64
Schlumberger	65	65
Scott Paper	35	35
Seagram	29	29
Sears Roebuck	54	54
Shell Trans	57	56
Sherwin Wlms	31	32
Skyline Corp	18	18
Snap-On-Tools	36	36
Southern Co	40	40
Sthwestern Bell	75	75
Sprint Corp	30	29
Stanley Works	45	45
Sun Company	25	25
Suntrust	43	44
Supervalu	32	33
Syntex Corp	18	19
Sysco Corp	25	25
TRW Inc	65	65
Tandem Comp	12	11
Tandy Corp	29	29
Telecom Corp	2	2
Teledyne	19	19
Temple Inland	44	44
Tenneco	51	51
Texaco	63	63
Texas Inst	62	61
Texas Utilities	46	45
Textron	49	48
Time Warner	33	33
Times-Mirror	31	30
Timken	31	31
Torchmark	52	53
Toys R Us	37	37
Transamerica	48	49
Travelers Corp	27	27
Tribune	53	53
Tyco Labs	39	39
UAL Corp	137	137
UST Inc	29	28
USX Marathon	19	18
Unilever NV	109	111
Union Camp	45	48
Union Carbide	19	19
Union Pacific	61	61
Unisys Corp	12	11
USAIR Group	21	21
USF&G Corp	16	17
US Life	37	39
US West	41	41
United Tech	51	51
Unocal Corp	30	31
Upjohn	29	29
VF Corp	47	47
Wal-Mart Stores	27	26
Warner-Lambert	73	72
Waste Mgmnt Inc	32	32
Wells Fargo	102	104
Westinghouse El	15	15
Weyerhaeuser	42	43
Whirlpool	54	54
Whitman	13	13
Winn Dixie	55	55
Woolworth	28	29
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	32	31
Xerox	76	75

BRITISH FUNDS

GOVERNMENT securities fell below their resistance level after taking their cue from opening falls on German and French bond markets.

On the futures market, the June series of the long gilt closed down £5/16 at £103 7/16, having touched £103 5/16.

Brokers said sentiment had also been depressed by confirmation from the Bank of England of the next gilt auction, which will be pitched between the 10-15 year range. Dealings start on a when-issued basis on Tuesday.

Index-linked issues attracted support. One theory suggests that in the wake of the BT pension fund deficit, fund managers will start switching out of equities in an attempt to look for income. At the short end, Exchequer 9¾ per cent 1998 lost £⅛ at £109 3/8, while in longs Treasury 9 per cent 2012 was £¼ lower at £103⅝.

1993 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
		SHORTS (under 5 years)				
103	101	Treas 12¾% 1993	101	...	12.36	5.64
100	99	Fund 6% 1993	100	...	6.00	5.87
106	104	Treas 13¾% 1993	104	-	13.21	5.62
102	101	Treas 8¼% 1994	101	...	8.34	5.73
109	106	Treas 14½% 1994	106	-	13.59	5.76
109	107	Exch 13½% 1994	107	...	12.61	5.77
105	104	Treas 10% 1994	104	-	9.60	5.98
110	107	Exch 12¼% 1994	107	-	11.59	6.09
105	103	Treas 9% 1994	104	-	8.65	6.15
111	108	Treas 12% 1995	109	-	11.00	6.28
96	94	Gas 3% 1990-95	95	...	3.13	5.38
109	107	Exch 10¼% 1995	107	-	9.51	6.42
116	113	Treas 12¾% 1995	114	-	11.17	6.52
120	117	Treas 14% 1996	117	-	11.93	6.82
125	121	Treas 15¼% 1996	121	-	12.51	6.95
120	116	Exch 13¼% 1996	116	-	11.34	6.95
111	108	Conv 10% 1996	109	-	9.15	6.98
122	118	Treas 13¼% 1997	119	-	11.11	7.21
113	110	Exch 10½% 1997	110	-	9.46	7.15
108	105	Treas 8¾% 1997	105	-	8.26	7.14
132	128	Exch 15% 1997	128	-	11.70	7.43
112	109	Exch 9¾% 1998	109	-	8.91	7.34
		MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)				
103	99	Treas 7¼% 1998	100	-	7.21	7.12
101	97	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	98	-	6.85	7.12
138	133	Treas 15½% 1998	133	-	11.57	7.66
122	118	Exch 12% 1998	118	-	10.10	7.74
112	108	Treas 9½% 1999	108	-	8.74	7.58
124	120	Exch 12¼% 1999	120	-	10.17	7.83
117	112	Treas 10½% 1999	113	-	9.27	7.69
117	112	Conv 10¼% 1999	112	-	9.09	7.73
110	106	Conv 9% 2000	106	-	8.41	7.67
131	125	Treas 13% 2000	126	-	10.29	8.10
115	109	Treas 10% 2001	111	-	8.98	8.01
129	125	Treas 14% 1998-01	125	-	11.16	7.78
114	108	Treas 9¾% 2002	110	-	8.84	8.15
103	97	Treas 8% 2003	99	-	8.05	8.09
116	109	Treas 10% 2003	111	-	8.94	8.27

1993 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
122	116	Treas 11½% 2001-04	118	-	9.73	8.29
74	67	Fund 3½% 1999-04	69	-	5.00	7.53
112	105	Conv 9½% 2004	107	-	8.81	8.43
112	105	Conv 9½% 2005	107	-	8.81	8.44
131	124	Treas 12½% 2003-05	126	-	9.88	8.62
101	94	Treas 8% 2002-06	97	-	8.24	8.40
125	118	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	120	-	9.74	8.58
104	97	Treas 8½% 2007	100	-	8.49	8.49
139	131	Treas 13½% 2004-08	133	-	10.08	8.63
		LONGS (over 15 years)				
108	101	Treas 9% 2008	104	-	8.64	8.52
99	92	Treas 8% 2009	95	-	8.37	8.56
108	100	Conv 9% 2011	103	-	8.68	8.60
108	100	Treas 9% 2012	103	-	8.68	8.60
76	70	Treas 5½% 2008-12	73	-	7.50	8.29
97	89	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	92	-	8.41	8.55
135	129	Exch 12% 2013-17	130	-	9.23	8.82
105	97	Treas 8¾% 2017	101	-	8.65	8.64
		UNDATED				
48	43	Consols 4%	46	...	8.63	...
42	38	War Ln 3½%	40	-	8.66	...
63	60	Conv 3½%	61	-	5.66	...
31	28	Consols 2½%	30	-	8.33	...
30	27	Treas 2½%	29	-	8.60	...
		INDEX-LINKED				
133	131	Treas IL 2% 1994	133	+	...	1.00
197	194	Treas IL 2% 1996	195	+	2.00	2.73
109	105	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	107	+	2.46	3.02
166	159	Treas IL 2½% 2001	163	+	2.93	3.26
163	155	Treas IL 2½% 2003	160	...	3.03	3.30
111	105	Treas IL 4⅛% 2004	109	...	3.16	3.43
170	159	Treas IL 2% 2006	167	...	3.14	3.35
154	144	Treas IL 2½% 2009	151	...	3.34	3.52
159	148	Treas IL 2½% 2011	155	...	3.41	3.58
131	122	Treas IL 2½% 2013	127	...	3.48	3.63
139	130	Treas IL 2½% 2016	135	...	3.54	3.69
133	124	Treas IL 2½% 2020	129	...	3.59	3.72
111	102	Treas IL 2½% 2024	107	...	3.62	3.74
111	103	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	107	...	3.64	3.76

Premium bonds record

NATIONAL Savings contributed £249 million to government funding last month, including accrued interest of £162 million. Net April receipts totalled £87 million, after savers put in £660 million and received £573 million in payments.

Index-linked certificates were the highest contributers at £83 million and FIRST Option bonds contributed £48 million. Sales of premium bonds reached a peak of £52 million, reflecting the increase in the maximum holding to £20,000, which took effect on April 13. Net receipts for fixed interest certificates fell £14 million, but rose £50 million for index-linked certificates.

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

SG Warburg	673p (+15p)
THORN EMI	837p (+16p)
Sothebys	850p (+75p)
BOC	693p (+17p)
Boots	448p (+13p)
Jardine Math	468p (+10p)
Barr & W 'A'	214p (+10p)
Stanley Leisure	210p (+12p)
Chesterfield	263p (+18p)
H Clarkson	74p (+10p)

FALLS:

Allied-Lyons	545p (-13p)
Br Bio-Tech	415p (-10p)
Sanderson Elec	330p (-11p)
Ocean Group	248p (-11p)
BAT	868p (-11p)
Sappi	411p (-16p)
Reed Int	651p (-12p)
Geest	410p (-12p)
Antofagasta	800p (-20p)
J Bibby	89p (-20p)
Danka Bs Sys	733p (-50p)
Laird	280p (-13p)

Closing Prices Page 29

UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE Aegon House, Lanark Square, London E14 9XS 071 538 5800				
Series Mngd Fd	384.60	407.00	-5.40	...
Series Equity	482.10	510.20	+6.30	...
Series Prop Fd	390.00	412.80	-0.10	...
Series Fixed Int	305.50	323.30	+1.30	...
Series Money Fd	238.80	252.90	+0.20	...
Series Oseas Fd	293.00	310.10	+7.30	...
AETNA LIFE INSURANCE 2-12 Pentonville Road, London N1 9XD 0800 010575				
Life Funds				
Squirrel	17.11	18.02	+0.02	...
Bear	17.24	18.66	+0.17	...
Owl	17.54	18.47	+0.28	...
Bull	15.89	16.73	+0.30	...
Stag	16.73	17.62	+0.26	...
Gilt Edged	17.43	17.43	-0.08	...
Deposit	15.10	15.10	+0.01	...
Pensions				
Squirrel	22.71	23.91	+0.02	...
Bear	23.49	24.73	+0.27	...
Owl	23.08	24.30	+0.43	...
Bull	19.82	20.87	+0.45	...
Stag	20.25	21.32	+0.37	...
Gilt Edged	21.29	21.29	+0.07	...
Deposit	19.07	19.07	+0.02	...
Pre 1982 Series				
3-Way Fund	512.85	512.86	+7.01	...
1982 Series				
UK Equity	308.50	324.74	+4.53	...
N Amer Equity	270.40	284.64	+4.54	...
Far East Equity	363.81	382.96	+13.66	...
Fixed	272.50	286.85	-0.86	...
Cash Deposit	194.16	204.38	+0.17	...
Property	106.43	112.04	+2.43	...
Special Opp	326.17	343.34	+2.60	...
Managed	268.79	282.94	+4.44	...
Index-Linked Fd	182.87	192.50	+0.02	...
ABBEY LIFE Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 0202 292373				
Property Fd Inc	248.90	262.10	+0.20	...
-do- Acc	438.00	461.10	+0.20	...
Equity Fd Inc	154.90	163.10	+2.50	...
-do- Acc	195.70	206.10	+3.30	...
Selective Fd	432.60	455.40	+2.60	...
Money Fd	355.60	374.40	+0.40	...
Prop Fd Ser 4	341.90	359.90	+0.10	...
Equity Ser 4	192.50	202.70	+2.40	...
Man Ser 4	587.70	618.70	+7.70	...
Conv Ser 4	311.90	328.40	+0.30	...
Money Ser 4	311.60	328.00	+0.20	...
Fixed Int Ser 4	319.40	336.30	+0.90	...
American Ser 4	459.90	484.20	-12.00	...
High Inc Ser 4	585.80	616.70	+4.50	...
Indexed Inv Ser 4	195.10	205.40	+0.30	...
Japan Ser 4	348.20	366.60	+4.20	...
ALBANY LIFE 3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ 0707 42311				
Equity Fd Acc	1378.0	1450.4	+12.90	...
European Fd Acc	300.00	315.70	-3.80	...
Fixed Int Acc	481.50	506.70	+0.80	...
Gtd Money Acc	317.70	334.30	+0.20	...
Intl Managed Acc	518.00	545.30	+9.50	...
Int Fxd Int Acc	313.00	329.50	+4.50	...
Japan Fund	279.70	294.40	+8.10	...
N American Acc	294.20	309.60	+7.30	...
Prop Fd Acc	364.70	383.80	-0.30	...
Multiple Inv Acc	921.60	970.10	+11.80	...
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE Swindon SN1 1EL 0793 514514				
Fxd Int Dep Acc	354.00	372.70	+0.10	...
Equity Acc	1217.8	1281.9	+20.20	...
Property Acc	468.60	493.30	+0.70	...
Far East Acc	254.60	268.00	+7.40	...
Managed Capital	474.70	499.70	+6.50	...
-do- Acc	938.80	988.20	+13.20	...
Overseas Acc	824.00	867.40	+13.50	...
Gilt Edged Acc	430.00	452.70	+0.90	...
Amer Equity Acc	685.50	721.60	+14.40	...
Amer Man Acc	295.30	310.90	+6.50	...
Amer Prop Acc	114.10	120.20	+3.50	...
AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks 0494 463463				
Reserve Ser 5	135.30	142.40	+0.30	...
Balced Ser 5	615.50	647.80	+8.10	...
Opportunity Ser 5	136.60	143.70	+3.40	...
UK Equities Ser 5	840.70	884.90	+11.70	...
Higher Inc Ser 5	884.50	931.00	+13.40	...
North Amer Ser 5	410.00	431.50	+4.80	...
Far East Ser 5	482.20	507.50	+13.90	...
Europe Ser 5	299.70	315.40	+4.70	...
Intnl Ser 5	491.30	517.10	+8.70	...
Property Ser 5	462.90	486.80	+0.60	...
Fixed Int Ser 5	385.30	405.50	+1.20	...
Ind-Lnkd Sec S5	171.00	179.90	+0.10	...
Gteed Dep Ser 5	281.40	296.20	+0.30	...
BARCLAYS LIFE 252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB 081 534 5544				
Equity Acc	734.70	773.40	+12.10	...
-do- Initial	513.00	540.10	+8.40	...
Gilt Edged Acc	357.30	376.00	+1.30	...
-do- Initial	251.60	264.90	+0.90	...
International Acc	349.90	368.40	+7.10	...
-do- Initial	245.00	257.90	+4.10	...
Managed Acc	460.00	484.30	+6.80	...
-do- Initial	322.60	339.60	+4.80	...
Money Acc	276.90	291.50	+0.20	...
Property Acc	252.30	265.60	+0.40	...
-do- Initial	175.60	184.90	+0.20	...
America Acc	264.60	278.60	+6.80	...
Australia Acc	175.70	185.00	+5.00	...
Financial Acc	268.30	282.50	+7.10	...
500 Accum	394.30	415.10	+5.60	...
Japan Genl Acc	347.50	365.80	+7.00	...
Income Acc	460.10	484.40	+8.20	...
Leisure Acc	190.60	200.70	+0.90	...
Special Sits Acc	197.80	208.30	+4.30	...
Unit Tech Acc	[illegible]	[illegible]	+1.30	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
BLACK HORSE LIFE Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF 0634 834000				
The Managed Fd	706.33	706.33	+9.82	...
Income Fund	672.17	707.55	+11.15	...
Extra Income	615.11	647.49	+11.34	...
Worldwide Gth	432.68	455.46	+8.60	...
Balanced Fund	584.58	615.35	+9.20	...
Smllr Cos Recov	602.20	633.90	+1.43	...
N Amer & Genrl	343.20	361.27	+4.32	...
Pacific Basin	345.85	364.06	+7.24	...
German Growth	191.01	201.07	+1.48	...
Japan Growth	163.50	172.11	+4.21	...
The UK Gth Fd	186.40	196.22	+4.28	...
Cond Euro Gth	103.44	108.89	+0.41	...
Property Fund	339.39	357.26	+0.20	...
Fixed Interest	284.10	299.06	+0.55	...
Cash Fund	269.61	283.80	+0.17	...
Managed Inv	432.07	454.82	+6.18	...
Nth Amer Recov	230.84	242.99	+8.95	...
Abtrust Fund				
Managed Grth	395.29	416.10	+8.10	...
BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE PO Box 37, Greenock, Renfrewshire 0475 868000				
Measured Perf	139.10	147.20	+1.90	...
Performance Plus	135.80	143.70	+2.20	...
With Profit Perf	160.10	169.40	+0.30	...
UK Opportunity	157.30	166.50	+2.20	...
Euro Opportunity	172.90	183.00	+2.00	...
North Amer Opp	133.30	141.10	+2.40	...
Far East Opp	155.80	164.90	+4.60	...
Gwth Prop Ser 1	152.00	160.00	-1.00	...
Gth Prop Ser 2	148.30	156.90	-1.80	...
Fixed Int	164.40	174.00	...	...
Cash	148.60	157.20	+0.10	...
Overseas	154.20	163.20	+2.00	...
CANADA LIFE 2-6 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA 0707 51122				
Equity Growth	‡238.60	...	...	...
Managed	290.30	305.70	+3.20	...
Property	194.60	204.90	+0.70	...
Gilt & Fxd Int	216.40	227.90	+0.70	...
Index-Linked	177.20	186.50	-0.20	...
Equity	320.30	337.20	+6.20	...
Cash	207.70	218.60	+0.30	...
CLife Euro Mgd	308.50	324.80	+1.20	...
CLife Intl Fd	330.10	347.50	+3.00	...
CANNON ASSURANCE 1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB 081 902 8876				
Equity Units	‡110.80	...	+1.10	...
Property Units	‡25.12	...	-0.02	...
Bal Bd Exec Unit	£57.90	£61.27	+0.75	...
2nd Equity Acc	561.40	594.10	+4.90	...
2nd High Inc Ac	536.40	567.60	+4.40	...
2nd Property Acc	230.50	243.90	-0.30	...
2nd Mngd 2 Acc	166.20	175.80	+0.90	...
2nd Mngd 3 Acc	412.60	436.60	+4.90	...
2nd Mngd 4 Acc	199.80	211.40	+3.00	...
2nd Deposit Acc	267.70	283.30	+0.30	...
2nd Gilt Acc	269.70	285.40	+0.40	...
2nd Amer Acc	580.90	614.70	+17.70	...
2nd Intl Mny Acc	249.30	263.80	+4.40	...
2nd Index Acc	179.90	190.40	+0.50	...
2nd Far East Acc	389.50	412.20	+8.10	...
2nd Global Acc	154.70	163.70	+2.50	...
2nd Euro Acc	133.60	141.40	-0.10	...
2nd Japan Acc	205.90	217.90	+1.60	...
2nd Heritage Acc	68.10	72.10	-0.10	...
2nd Int Cu Bd Acc	150.60	159.40	+1.40	...
2nd Cap Gth Acc	110.80	117.20	+1.60	...
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE Scotty House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 0908 606101				
Property Fund	177.50	186.90	...	...
Managed Fund	534.80	563.00	+10.40	...
Equity Fund	303.60	319.60	+7.30	...
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0272 290566				
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	250.40	263.60	+4.50	...
Ruby	142.90	150.50	+3.90	...
Emerald	132.10	139.10	-0.10	...
Equity	286.10	301.20	+3.70	...
Property	174.60	183.80	...	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	188.40	198.40	+0.10	...
Indexed Secs	155.20	163.40	+0.10	...
Cash	177.70	187.10	+0.10	...
Nth American	193.70	203.90	+4.40	...
Far East	254.10	267.50	+10.70	...
International	202.20	212.90	+5.40	...
Special Sits	271.70	286.10	+7.50	...
Intl Income	252.70	266.00	+3.50	...
American Inc	169.20	178.20	+4.60	...
European	246.00	259.00	+1.80	...
Japanese	147.10	154.90	+5.50	...
SE Asia	274.00	288.50	+12.40	...
With Profits Reg	146.70	154.50	-0.30	...
-do- Spec	146.70	154.50	+0.40	...
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	272.90	287.30	+5.50	...
Equity	322.70	339.70	+5.20	...
Property	169.10	178.00	+0.20	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	225.10	237.00	+0.20	...
Index Linked	163.40	172.00	+0.30	...
Cash	232.00	244.30	+0.30	...
Nth American	237.00	249.50	+6.80	...
Far East Acc	298.70	314.50	+12.60	...
International Acc	249.80	262.80	+5.50	...
Special Sits	400.90	422.10	+13.30	...
European Flex	328.90	346.30	+4.70	...
COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP Colonial Mutual House, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY. 0634 890 000				
(Units) Key	1203.90	...	-0.32	...
-do- Pacemaker	1281.12	...	+0.24	...
-do- Cash	195.16	205.43	-0.10	...
-do- Equity	468.07	492.71	+0.51	...
-do- Fxd Int	336.55	354.26	+0.61	...
-do- Managed	340.87	358.81	+4.22	...
-do- Property	244.05	256.89	+1.66	...
(Pens) Cash Cap	205.15	215.96	+0.06	...
-do- Cash Inv	284.33	299.30	+0.28	...
-do- Equity Cap	1272.8	1339.8	+26.44	...
-do- Equity Inv	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
-do- Fixed Cap	366.37	385.55	+0.91	...
-do- Fixed Inv	507.63	534.35	+1.62	...
-do- Index Cap	198.06	208.49	-0.19	...
-do- Index Inv	274.50	288.96	+0.47	...
Mngd Cap	516.03	543.20	-7.59	...
Mngd Inv	715.19	752.84	-11.02	...
COMMERCIAL UNION St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3. 071 283 7500				
Var Ann Acc (5)	‡600.27	...	+10.94	...
Var Ann (5)	182.41	...	+0.89	...
Prime: Managed	350.00	368.50	+5.80	...
Prime: UK Equity	419.40	441.50	+9.00	...
Prime: Int Equity	261.50	275.30	+4.00	...
Prime: Property	194.80	205.10	+0.10	...
Prime: Fxd Int	221.80	233.50	+0.20	...
Prime: Index-Lnk	159.00	167.40	+0.10	...
Prime: Cash	195.20	205.50	+0.10	...
CONFEDERATION LIFE Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN 0438 744848				
Managed Fund	1003.0	1055.7	+9.70	...
Equity Fund	1433.4	1508.8	+25.70	...
CROWN FINANCIAL Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW 0483 715033				
Life Mangd Acc	522.60	550.10	+8.30	...
Life Fxd Int Acc	337.80	355.50	-1.20	...
Life Equity Acc	712.60	750.10	+11.10	...
Life Money Acc	288.00	303.10	+0.20	...
Life Inv Tst Acc	650.90	685.10	+7.10	...
Life Intl Acc	460.50	484.70	+11.40	...
Life High Inc Acc	677.70	713.30	+7.40	...
Life Property Acc	205.10	215.80	+0.20	...
Crown Brit Inv A	1124.8	1124.8	...	...
Brewin Equity	619.90	652.50	+9.50	...
EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ. 0242 221311				
Secure Fund	166.60	175.40	+0.20	...
Blue Chip Fund	218.50	230.00	+3.10	...
-do- Series 2	140.00	147.40	+2.00	...
Adventurous Fd	183.00	192.70	+3.60	...
-do- Series 2	137.30	144.60	+2.80	...
Performance Fd	222.50	234.30	+4.90	...
-do- Series 2	143.70	151.30	+3.20	...
UK Pref Fxd Int	136.30	143.50	-0.20	...
UK Equity Fund	139.50	146.90	+1.30	...
Property Fund	102.40	107.80	-0.30	...
Envrmntl Opps	138.50	145.80	+0.90	...
Euro Fund	141.50	149.00	+1.70	...
North Amer Fd	172.50	181.60	+4.40	...
Oriental Ops	156.60	164.90	+8.70	...
Japanese Fund	121.20	127.60	+1.80	...
Bd & West Life	113.10	119.10	+0.10	...
Bd & West Pen	124.90	131.50	+0.20	...
EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND 60 St Mary Axe, London EC3. 071 929 1111				
Eagle/Mid Uts	244.40	253.30	-3.50	3.61
FRIENDS' PROVIDENT Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH 0722 413366				
Managed (Mixed)	267.30	281.40	+3.80	...
UK Equity	356.20	375.00	+5.10	...
Stewardship	310.20	326.60	+3.30	...
Overseas Equity	240.60	253.30	+4.90	...
North American	129.80	136.70	+3.00	...
Pacific Basin	133.30	140.40	+5.00	...
European	166.90	175.70	+2.30	...
Property	187.00	196.90	+0.20	...
Fixed Interest	205.30	216.20	+0.50	...
Index Linked	153.40	161.50	+0.20	...
Cash	189.70	199.70	+0.20	...
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD 8th Floor, 8 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YJ. 071 220 4567				
GT Plan Far East	305.20	321.30	+8.80	...
GT Plan Wwide	421.70	443.90	+8.20	...
GENERAL ACCIDENT 2 Rougier Street, York YO1 1HR. 0904 628982				
Managed	180.50	189.90	+2.80	...
Unitised Profit	121.10	127.40	+0.30	...
UK Equity	243.80	256.50	+3.70	...
Fixed Int	176.80	186.10	+0.30	...
Index-Linked	151.70	161.70	+0.20	...
Cash Deposit	166.60	175.20	+0.10	...
Property	162.10	170.50	+0.10	...
International	160.60	169.00	+1.80	...
American	143.50	151.00	+2.10	...
Japan	237.60	250.00	+1.80	...
Japan Smllr Cos	235.50	247.80	+7.50	...
European	157.80	161.80	+1.20	...
Pacific Fund	214.60	225.80	+6.00	...
Conv Life	128.80	135.50	+0.40	...
GENERAL PORTFOLIO LIFE Gen Portfolio House, Harlow, Essex CM20 2EW. 0279 626262				
Portfolio Acc	634.90	634.90	+8.00	...
-do- Inv A	634.70	668.20	+8.40	...
UK Equity	363.90	383.10	+3.10	...
Gilt Plus	193.70	204.00	+0.60	...
Managed	276.90	291.60	+3.80	...
Inter Man	250.30	263.60	+3.40	...
GRESHAM UNIT 2-6 Prince of Wales Road, Bournemouth 0202 752000				
Managed Bond	643.00	677.60	+8.90	...
Money Fund	301.30	317.20	+0.30	...
Equity Fund	558.50	588.50	+2.00	...
Fixed Interest	262.70	276.80	+2.00	...
Property Fund	333.70	351.60	+1.70	...
Gresham Framlington				
American & Gnrl	484.20	510.20	...	...
Income	662.00	687.00	+8.60	...
International Gth	544.80	574.10	+26.40	...
Capital Fund	561.10	591.30	+1.40	...
Recovery Fund	559.30	589.40	+26.70	...
Japan & General	268.90	283.40	+11.20	...
GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE Royal Exchange London EC3. 071 283 7101				
Ads Prop Bds	641.30	668.00	...	...
Managed Initial	408.10	429.60	+6.90	...
-do- Acc	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Initial	599.40	630.90	+10.70	...
-do- Acc	825.20	868.70	+15.20	...
Fixed Int Initial	401.60	422.70	-2.80	...
-do- Acc	552.90	582.00	-4.20	...
Intl Initial	406.70	428.10	+7.10	...
-do- Acc	559.90	589.40	+10.00	...
Nth Amer Initial	165.90	174.60	+3.40	...
-do- Acc	207.90	218.80	+4.40	...
Pacific Initial	218.20	229.60	+4.80	...
-do- Acc	270.80	285.00	+6.10	...
Property Initial	149.90	157.80	...	...
-do- Acc	206.20	217.10	...	...
Index-Lnkd Initl	151.70	159.70	+0.30	...
-do- Acc	190.10	200.10	+0.50	...
Deposit Initial	193.00	203.20	+0.10	...
-do- Acc	265.80	279.70	+0.10	...
Euro Initial	82.30	86.60	+1.20	...
-do- Acc	95.30	100.30	+1.50	...
HAMBRO GUARDIAN ASSURANCE Kingsgate, 1 King Edward Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4HG. 0277 200939				
Managed	144.40	152.00	+1.80	...
-do- Pens	171.00	180.00	+2.80	...
UK Equity	142.70	150.20	+3.00	...
-do- Pens	156.50	164.70	+4.20	...
International	128.80	135.50	+1.80	...
-do- Pens	138.80	146.10	+2.30	...
Deposit	133.70	140.70	+0.10	...
-do- Pens	155.20	163.30	+0.10	...
HENDERSON ADMINISTRATION 3 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA 071 638 5757				
UK Equity Fd	344.50	366.50	+1.30	...
North America	310.10	329.90	+7.00	...
Far East Fund	512.10	544.80	+14.80	...
Global Managed	404.70	430.60	+7.00	...
Deposit Fund	218.20	229.70	+0.20	...
Prime Residential	127.70	131.30	-0.50	...
European Fund	216.30	230.20	+2.40	...
Fixed Interest	66.20	70.50	-3.90	...
HILL SAMUEL LIFE NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon 081 686 4355				
Security Fund	451.50	477.80	+4.70	...
British Fund	454.70	481.20	+5.60	...
International	451.60	477.90	+5.70	...
Dollar Fund	329.20	348.40	+5.20	...
Capital Fund	410.50	434.40	+4.10	...
Income Fund	613.30	649.00	+7.30	...
Property Series A	381.80	404.10	...	...
Property Units	618.30	649.30	...	...
Financial Fund	475.60	503.30	+9.20	...
Managed Ser A	478.70	506.60	+3.80	...
-do- C	275.50	291.60	+2.00	...
Managed Units	854.70	899.70	+6.70	...
High Yield Fund	572.90	606.30	+6.70	...
Money Series A	273.70	289.70	+0.20	...
Money Units	360.50	379.50	+0.30	...
Equity Fund	541.10	572.60	+5.70	...
Fixed Interest	341.90	361.90	+0.60	...
Indexed Secs	168.90	178.80	-0.10	...
European Fund	615.50	651.20	+7.30	...
Natural Res	252.30	267.00	+10.90	...
Far East Fund	549.60	581.60	+11.40	...
Smaller Cos	412.00	436.00	+4.70	...
Special Sits	394.50	417.50	+0.80	...
Man Currency	251.40	266.10	+1.80	...
Japanese Tech	246.50	260.90	+1.40	...
US Smaller Cos	192.00	203.20	+3.40	...
IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 5TF. 0727 48181				
Global Managed	485.00	510.50	+6.70	...
Global Property	253.20	266.50	...	...
Global Fixed Int	464.50	488.90	-2.50	...
Global Equity	515.40	542.50	+8.70	...
Global Cash	202.70	213.40	+0.10	...
LAURENTIAN LIFE Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RZ 0452 371371				
Gtd Mgd	443.60	467.00	+1.20	...
Property	411.30	433.00	+1.60	...
Managed	370.50	390.00	+5.40	...
American	363.70	382.80	+11.30	...
UK Equity Fd	400.80	421.90	+4.90	...
Japan	202.70	213.40	...	...
Index-Lkd	174.90	184.10	+0.20	...
High Yield	742.40	781.50	+0.20	...
Growth Cap	400.10	421.20	+1.00	...
Money	382.70	402.80	+0.30	...
International	343.90	362.00	+7.10	...
Henderson Active	193.90	204.10	+3.30	...
Perpetual Active	285.00	300.00	+5.80	...
Growth Cap	400.10	421.20	+1.00	...
-do- Acc	575.30	605.60	+6.90	...
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE 2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE 0273 824000				
B Soc Lnkd Init	134.90	142.10	...	...
-do- Acc	177.10	186.50	+0.10	...
Brit Opps Int	126.20	132.90	+1.10	...
-do- Acc	149.40	157.30	+1.50	...
Cash Initial	166.60	175.40	+0.10	...
-do- Acc	273.50	287.90	+0.20	...
Equity Initial	585.00	615.80	+8.90	...
-do- Acc	960.20	1010.8	+14.80	...
Fixed Initial	334.80	352.50	+0.80	...
-do- Acc	549.60	578.60	+1.20	...
Index-Lnkd Gilt	129.90	136.80	-0.10	...
-do- Acc	182.00	191.60	...	...
Intl Initial	309.50	325.80	+7.00	...
-do- Acc	500.10	526.50	+11.30	...
Managed Initial	431.00	453.70	+6.70	...
-do- Acc	707.40	744.70	+11.10	...
Property Initial	185.30	195.10	+0.20	...
-do- Acc	304.10	320.20	+0.40	...
LIFE ASSOCIATION OF SCOTLAND 113 Dundas Street, Edinburgh EH3 5EB 031 550 5000				
Managed Fund	315.90	332.60	+4.40	...
UK Equity	525.60	553.30	+6.90	...
Property	274.20	288.70	...	...
Money Market	240.80	253.50	+0.10	...
Fixed Interest	290.00	305.30	-0.50	...
Japan	388.20	408.70	+7.80	...
North America	147.80	155.60	+2.70	...
International	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
European	234.30	246.70	+3.10	...
Far East	118.70	125.00	+4.40	...
LONDON LIFE 100 Temple Street, Bristol BS1 6EA 0272 279179				
Equity	‡800.10	...	+10.40	...
Fixed Interest	‡369.80	...	+1.20	...
Property	‡340.80	...	+0.30	...
Deposit	‡276.70	...	+0.10	...
Mixed	‡522.50	...	+5.40	...
Indexed Stock	‡197.90	...	+0.20	...
International	‡253.50	...	+2.80	...
Equity A	‡186.10	...	+2.40	...
Fixed Int A	‡164.50	...	-0.50	...
Property A	‡150.20	...	+0.10	...
Deposit A	‡163.10	...	+0.10	...
Mixed A	‡172.20	...	+1.80	...
Index Stock A	‡155.30	...	+0.10	...
International A	‡158.80	...	+1.80	...
Equity P	‡647.40	...	+11.20	...
Fixed Int P	‡475.60	...	-1.70	...
Property P	‡273.20	...	+0.40	...
Deposit P	‡320.60	...	+0.40	...
Mixed P	‡471.70	...	+6.70	...
Index Stock P	‡226.60	...	+0.30	...
International P	‡287.00	...	+4.00	...
LONDON & MANCHESTER ASSURANCE Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 0392 283456				
Inv Trust Cap	‡524.10	...	+4.90	...
-do- Acc	‡817.80	...	+8.20	...
Property Cap	‡157.10	...	...	...
-do- Acc	‡237.70	...	+0.10	...
Fxd Interest Cap	‡191.70	...	-0.40	...
-do- Acc	‡290.50	...	+0.90	...
Equity Cap	‡297.10	...	+4.10	...
-do- Acc	‡455.10	...	+6.60	...
Internatl Cap	‡221.70	...	+4.20	...
-do- Acc	‡336.40	...	+6.60	...
Gtd Deposit Cap	‡170.40	...	-0.10	...
-do- Acc	‡255.80	...	...	...
Flexible Cap	‡336.80	...	+4.10	...
-do- Acc	‡499.50	...	+6.70	...
Moneymaker Fd	‡393.50	...	+4.90	...
Capital Growth	‡1447.9	...	+22.70	...
M & G Victoria Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1FB 0245 266266				
Amer Bond Acc	376.40	395.30	+10.40	...
Amer Rec Bond	432.80	454.60	+15.10	...
Am Smlr Cos Bd	205.40	215.80	+4.60	...
Australasia Bd	181.60	190.70	+6.80	...
Commodity Bond	241.40	253.50	-14.00	...
Deposit Bond Acc	344.50	361.80	+0.20	...
Equity Bond Acc	1236.3	1298.2	+15.80	...
European Bd Acc	293.70	308.50	+2.90	...
Extra Yld Bd Acc	617.00	648.80	+9.00	...
Far East Bd Acc	265.00	278.30	+9.20	...
Gilt Bond Acc	397.10	417.10	+1.30	...
Gold Bond Acc	131.30	138.00	+16.40	...
High Yield Bond	310.50	326.10	+6.30	4.31
Index-Lnk Gi Bd	196.90	206.90	...	...
International Bd	648.10	680.60	+16.20	...
Japan Bond Acc	267.40	280.80	+6.30	...
Japan Sm Cos Ac	242.30	254.50	+7.00	...
Managed Bonds	752.50	790.40	+15.70	...
Prop Bond Acc	297.30	312.30	+0.10	...
Rec Bond Acc	642.40	674.70	+9.90	...
MGM ASSURANCE MGM House, Heene Road, Worthing BN11 2DY. 0903 204631				
UK Equity	206.50	217.40	+0.80	...
UK Equity Acc	275.80	290.40	+1.30	...
Special Sits	85.40	89.90	+1.00	...
Special Sits Acc	114.20	120.30	+1.50	...
North American	171.70	180.80	+1.90	...
N American Acc	229.40	241.50	+2.60	...
Pacific Basin	325.80	343.00	-8.50	...
Pacific Basin Acc	435.30	458.30	+11.70	...
Fixed Interest	275.10	289.60	+0.60	...
Fixed Interest Acc	367.90	387.30	+1.00	...
Property	151.80	159.80	...	...
Property Acc	203.00	213.70	+0.20	...
Deposit	151.30	159.30	+0.10	...
Deposit Acc	202.90	213.60	+0.30	...
Managed	235.60	248.00	+1.60	...
Managed Acc	290.00	305.30	+2.20	...
MANULIFE GROUP St Georges Way, Stevenage, Herts 0438 356101				
Managed Fund	619.70	652.30	+7.10	...
Property Fund	474.60	499.60	-0.30	...
Equity Fund	762.60	802.70	+17.90	...
Gilt Edged Fd	550.90	579.90	-1.40	...
Deposit Fund	314.00	330.50	+0.20	...
Investment Fd	322.00	338.10	+5.00	...
International	508.20	534.90	+9.00	...
MERCHANT INVESTORS 91 Wimpole Street, London W1M 7DA Admin: 0272 266366 Prices: 081 789 2945 or 0272 752297				
Property	391.50	412.10	+0.70	...
Equity Bond	304.70	320.70	+5.30	...
Money Mrkt Bd	498.50	524.70	+1.10	...
Deposit Fund	360.00	378.90	+0.30	...
Managed Fund	416.20	438.10	+4.80	...
Intl Equity	497.20	523.30	-10.90	...
Intl Managed	466.50	491.00	+7.70	...
North American	194.90	205.10	+6.00	...
Far East	379.40	399.30	+10.60	...
Intl Currency	255.10	268.50	-0.30	...
NM LIFE ASSURANCE Enterprise House, Portsmouth 0705 827733				
Equity	130.20	137.00	+1.60	...
Fixed Interest	487.20	512.80	+1.80	...
Managed	620.90	653.90	+6.90	...
Deposit	322.10	339.00	+0.50	...
Property	345.60	363.70	-1.20	...
American	378.30	398.10	+4.40	...
Australian	426.50	448.90	+11.70	...
European	446.30	469.70	+1.20	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	243.80	256.60	+0.00	...
Global Managed	125.90	132.50	+1.50	...
Income Acc	686.80	722.60	+4.00	...
-do- Dist	437.10	460.10	+3.30	5.19
International	[illegible]	[illegible]	+2.00	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Japan Smaller	485.00	510.50	+18.70	...
Singapore & Mal	280.90	295.60	+12.30	...
Smaller Cos	342.70	360.70	-7.50	...
Tokyo Fund	647.20	681.20	+1.70	...
UK Equity	539.70	568.10	+14.70	...
CCM Vangd Mg	651.20	685.40	+8.90	...
Equity Pens Cap	875.30	921.30	+14.40	...
NPI 48 Gracechurch Street, London EC3P 3HH 071 623 4200				
Managed	421.10	443.30	+7.00	...
UK Equity	521.50	549.00	+9.10	...
Overseas Equity	420.90	443.10	+7.60	...
Americas	371.10	390.70	+8.40	...
Far East	472.20	497.10	+13.60	...
Property	193.80	204.10	+1.00	...
Fixed Interest	335.00	352.70	-1.90	...
Indexed Gilt	213.20	224.50	-0.10	...
Deposit	205.30	216.20	+0.10	...
NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY - Ex NUAM Funds PO Box 146, Norwich NR3 1PP 0603 622200				
Managed Fund	1217.1	1281.2	+15.60	...
Eqty Fund	2652.9	2792.5	+32.70	...
Property Fd	439.00	462.10	+1.40	...
Fixed Int Fd	544.20	572.80	+2.70	...
Deposit Fund	328.40	345.90	+0.30	...
Intl Fund	207.10	218.00	+3.70	...
PEARL ASSURANCE Pearl House, Thorpe Wood, Peterborough PE3 6SA. 0733 63212				
Inv Prop Dist	139.70	147.10	+0.20	...
Prop Acc (Gross)	266.00	280.00	+0.30	...
Inv Equity	1050.7	1106.0	+18.70	...
Inv Managed	730.80	769.30	+9.90	...
Ret Managed	798.00	840.00	+9.80	...
PROLIFIC LIFE & PENSIONS LTD Stramongate, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 4UB 0539 733733				
Bal Gwth Mngd	691.10	735.30	+8.20	...
Cash Fund	321.10	338.40	+0.20	...
Property Fund	218.00	232.00	...	...
Equity Fund	789.60	840.10	+15.30	...
Fxd Interest Fund	419.80	442.40	+2.40	...
International	353.60	376.20	+6.70	...
High Income	623.20	663.00	+2.40	...
Far East	483.70	514.60	+18.40	...
North American	462.80	492.40	+10.40	...
Special Sits	565.70	601.90	+9.40	...
Technology	442.40	470.70	-13.70	...
Extra Income Fd	333.80	355.20	+2.70	...
Gilt Fund	445.40	473.90	+1.90	...
European	127.30	135.30	+2.40	...
Adventurous Mg	180.50	190.10	+4.50	...
Secure Mgd	130.60	139.00	+1.90	...
Equity Inc Dist	109.70	116.80	-1.00	4.80
North American	103.40	110.00	+1.20	5.51
PROVIDENCE CAPITOL 2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA 0256 768888				
Equity Fund Acc	264.90	279.50	+4.10	...
Fxd Interest Acc	220.00	232.10	+0.30	...
International Acc	228.80	241.40	+6.20	...
Managed Acc	195.80	206.20	+5.80	...
Property Acc	221.10	233.20	...	...
Money Acc	146.50	154.60	+0.50	...
Spec Mkt Acc	192.20	202.90	+8.30	...
Japan Equity Acc	122.40	129.20	+1.10	...
N Amer Acc	147.90	156.10	+3.20	...
Pacific Acc	140.60	148.40	+4.30	...
European Acc	126.40	133.40	-1.80	...
PROVIDENT MUTUAL William Road, Hitchin, Herts SG4 0LP 0438 739000				
Managed Ord	411.00	432.60	+4.30	...
Managed Initial	291.50	306.80	+2.70	...
Equity Ord	615.70	648.10	+7.20	...
Equity Init	436.80	459.80	+4.70	...
I-Linked Gilt Ord	191.30	201.40	-0.10	...
I-Linked Gilt Init	141.80	149.30	-0.10	...
Oseas Equity Ord	328.30	345.60	+5.20	...
Oseas Equity Init	232.90	245.20	+3.50	...
Property Ord	224.90	236.70	+0.30	...
Property Init	159.50	167.90	+0.10	...
Fixed Int Ord	256.80	270.30	+0.60	...
Fixed Int Init	182.20	191.80	+0.40	...
Deposit Ord	196.00	206.30	+0.20	...
Deposit Initial	139.00	146.30	...	...
PRUDENTIAL Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH 071 405 9222				
Managed	298.00	310.50	+1.60	...
PRUDENTIAL INDIVIDUAL LIFE FUNDS 1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AP 071 548 3278				
Managed Fund	662.40	697.30	+8.40	...
Equity Fund	1293.6	1361.7	+16.10	...
Intl Fund	515.40	542.60	+9.60	...
Fixed Interest	531.40	559.40	+0.10	...
Property Fund	376.60	396.50	...	...
Cash Fund	347.90	366.30	+0.10	...
Pacific Basin	288.00	303.20	+11.40	...
N American Fd	206.40	217.30	+4.00	...
Euro Fund	218.20	229.70	+1.70	...
Balanced Fund	133.70	140.80	+1.80	...
Strategic Fund	138.00	145.30	+1.90	...
ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE Peterborough Business Park, Peterborough PE2 6GG. 0733 390000				
Malt Grow (45)	‡650.70	...	...	...
-do- Acc	418.10	440.20	...	...
Op Prop	414.40	436.30	+2.10	...
Op Equity	878.40	924.70	+6.80	...
Op High Yield	519.30	546.70	+7.80	...
Op Managed	732.10	770.70	+15.50	...
Op Deposit	373.80	393.60	...	...
Amer Smaller	...	...	...	...
Extra Inc	...	...	...	...
Gold Gen	...	...	...	...
Inc Gth	280.30	295.00	+2.40	...
Japan Perf	...	...	...	...
Japan Smllr	234.10	246.50	[illegible]	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Natl High	...	...	...	...
Prop Shs	...	...	...	...
Managed Gth	225.60	237.50	+2.50	...
Gilt	77.50	81.60	...	...
Amer (35.34)	...	...	...	...
British	332.80	350.40	+5.50	...
Global Bond	113.00	119.00	+2.20	...
Global (35.34)	154.70	162.90	+3.10	...
Gold Share	66.60	70.20	+5.10	...
High Income	261.20	275.00	+3.40	...
Income	388.70	409.20	+4.20	...
Japan	410.40	432.00	+3.60	...
UK Smlr Cos	282.20	297.10	-0.50	...
Mngd Growth	397.30	418.30	-0.40	...
ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS 051 239 3000				
Royal Shield Fd	856.80	906.60	+13.70	...
Royal Life Unit Linked				
Managed Fund	343.00	361.00	+5.40	...
Equity Fund	476.10	501.10	+7.40	...
Property Fund	252.00	265.20	-0.40	...
International	403.90	425.10	+9.60	...
Pacific Basin	241.20	253.80	+8.00	...
United States	216.90	228.30	+7.50	...
Gilt Fund	326.30	343.40	+1.40	...
SAVE & PROSPER 16-22 Western Road, Romford, Essex RM1 3LB. 0708 766966				
Bal Inv Fund	660.60	699.10	+9.00	...
Deposit Fund (2)	349.40	369.80	+0.30	...
Gilt Fund	469.10	496.50	+1.70	...
Global Equity Fd	202.00	213.80	+3.30	...
Property Fund (4)	89.40	94.70	...	...
AG Bond Fund	138.20	146.30	+1.50	...
SCOTTISH AMICABLE 150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow 041 248 2323				
Equity	499.40	525.70	+6.40	...
Fixed Interest	329.90	347.30	-0.30	...
Index-Linked	182.10	191.70	+0.40	...
International	388.30	408.80	+5.70	...
Property	239.40	252.00	...	...
Cash	219.30	230.90	+0.10	...
Managed	397.70	418.70	+5.00	...
Cap Gteed Bd	98.80	104.10	+1.90	...
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE 28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF 031 556 9101				
Cash	172.00	181.05	+0.14	...
Index-Linked	148.60	156.40	-0.50	...
Fixed Interest	166.50	175.30	+0.40	...
Mixed	221.50	233.20	+3.70	...
UK Equity	213.40	224.60	+3.80	...
International	222.60	234.30	+4.20	...
American	228.00	240.00	+4.00	...
Japan	239.00	251.60	+1.20	...
European	206.80	217.70	+2.20	...
Pacific	310.00	326.30	+9.40	...
Technology	287.50	302.60	+4.00	...
Currncy/Currncy	215.60	226.90	+3.00	...
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YE 031 225 2211				
Property	173.70	182.90	+0.20	...
UK Equity	316.70	333.50	+5.40	...
American	222.90	234.80	+3.10	...
Pacific	301.70	317.70	+7.10	...
European	398.10	419.20	+2.70	...
International	269.10	283.40	+4.20	...
Fixed Interest	224.40	236.30	-0.60	...
Index Linked	185.90	195.80	-0.30	...
Deposit	183.80	193.60	+0.20	...
Managed	252.40	265.80	+3.70	...
Worldwide	108.80	114.60	+2.60	...
Pen Worldwide	113.30	119.40	+3.20	...
SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE 109 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5HN 041 248 6321				
Flex Fund (25)	1437.8	1482.3	...	...
Safety Fund	212.40	223.60	+1.70	...
Growth Fund	203.30	214.10	+4.10	...
Opportunity Fd	201.60	212.30	+4.00	...
Cash Fund	165.90	174.70	+0.10	...
European Fund	295.90	311.10	+9.10	...
Gilts & Fxd Int	179.00	188.50	+0.70	...
Index-Linked Fd	170.10	179.10	+0.40	...
International Fd	253.80	267.20	+9.10	...
North American	215.60	227.00	+4.70	...
Property Fund	114.60	120.70	+0.10	...
UK Equity	215.80	227.20	+4.60	...
UK Smaller	196.90	207.30	+3.60	...
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT 6 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA 031 556 9181				
Mixed	234.90	247.40	+3.60	...
Equity	248.00	261.10	+5.20	...
International	245.40	258.40	+3.10	...
Property	193.20	203.50	+0.80	...
Fixed Interest	206.50	217.50	+0.70	...
Index Linked	169.00	178.00	+0.30	...
Cash	178.60	188.10	+0.10	...
SCOTTISH WIDOWS PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU 031 655 6000				
Inv Pol 1	802.30	832.30	+8.30	...
Inv Pol 2	759.40	799.40	+8.00	...
Inv Pol 3	731.40	769.90	+7.70	...
Inv Cash	297.10	312.80	+0.20	...
Mixed Fund	402.00	423.30	+4.30	...
Equity Fund	473.10	498.10	+5.30	...
Property Fund	202.60	213.40	+1.00	...
International Fd	416.20	438.10	+6.70	...
Fixed Interest Fd	340.00	358.00	+2.10	...
Indexed Stock Fd	186.00	195.80	+0.50	...
Cash Fund	216.30	227.80	+0.20	...
SKANDIA LIFE Skandia House, Portland Terrace, Southampton SO9 7BX 0703 334411				
Managed Acc	327.40	344.60	+4.10	...
Equity Acc	376.30	396.10	+4.70	...
International Acc	306.00	322.10	+4.40	...
Property	208.40	219.30	+0.30	...
Royal Trust Mi	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO 3 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ 031 225 2552				
Cash	255.90	269.40	+0.20	...
Equity	875.70	921.80	+14.80	...
European	139.30	146.70	+1.70	...
Far East	147.70	155.50	+3.10	...
Fixed Interest	362.90	382.10	+1.00	...
Index Linked	193.40	203.60	-0.20	...
International	533.20	561.30	+9.60	...
Managed	613.50	645.80	+9.60	...
Nth American	135.00	142.20	+2.90	...
Property	306.10	322.30	+0.30	...
Pensions				
Cash	392.00	412.70	+0.30	...
Equity	1236.1	1301.2	+24.20	...
European	163.50	172.20	+2.40	...
Far East	115.20	121.30	+3.30	...
Fixed Interest	482.30	507.60	+1.40	...
Index Linked	267.60	281.70	-0.20	...
International	736.40	775.20	+16.20	...
Managed	843.00	887.40	+15.40	...
Nth American	166.70	175.50	+3.50	...
Property	386.40	406.80	-0.10	...
Stock Exchange	190.40	200.50	+3.70	...
SUN ALLIANCE St Mark's Court, Horsham, Sussex 0403 232323				
Managed Fund	570.10	600.20	+9.90	...
Equity Fund	761.50	801.60	+12.30	...
Fixed Interest Fd	382.50	402.70	-1.60	...
Index-Linked Fd	285.90	301.00	-0.10	...
Property Fund	410.00	431.60	-0.60	...
International Fd	549.30	578.30	+12.10	...
N American Fd	207.00	217.90	+7.20	...
Far East Fund	190.20	200.30	+7.10	...
Deposit Fund	279.80	294.60	+0.20	...
International Bd	‡274.09	...	+2.51	...
Worldwide Bond	154.40	162.60	+2.90	...
Worldwide Fincl	78.60	82.80	...	...
Worldwide Tech	93.40	98.40	...	...
European	135.80	143.00	+2.80	...
Phoenix Assurance				
Wealth Assured	561.20	590.80	+8.60	...
Ebor Phoenix Eq	430.00	459.70	...	...
Property Growth				
Property Fund	‡468.30	...	-0.50	...
-do- Acc	‡439.50	...	-0.50	...
Agricultural Fd	‡756.00	...	+0.60	...
-do- Acc	‡726.40	...	+0.60	...
Abbey Nat Fd	‡377.20	...	...	...
Abbey Nat Acc	‡400.60	...	-0.10	...
Investment Fd	‡301.20	...	+4.90	...
Investment (A)	‡289.80	...	+4.80	...
Equity	‡1099.4	...	+16.90	...
Equity Acc	‡1056.5	...	+16.20	...
Money Fund	‡443.00	...	+0.40	...
-do- Acc	‡424.90	...	+0.30	...
Actuarial Fd	‡514.00	...	+6.50	...
Gilt-Edged Fd	‡356.70	...	-1.40	...
-do- Acc	‡356.70	...	-1.40	...
Retire Annuity	‡984.30	...	...	...
Immed Annuity	‡299.00	...	...	...
Bldg Soc Life	‡214.70	...	+0.10	...
SUN LIFE OF CANADA Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ Dealing: 0256 841414				
Growth Account	‡1264.3	...	+20.70	...
Managed Acc	‡730.10	...	-0.90	...
Equity Account	‡1024.8	...	-4.00	...
Mngd Fund Acc	338.70	356.50	-0.50	...
Equity Fund Acc	451.80	475.60	-2.00	...
Prop Fund Acc	220.80	232.40	-1.20	...
Fixed Int Fd Acc	278.00	292.60	+0.80	...
Money Fund Acc	210.40	221.50	-0.20	...
Indx-Lnk Scr Ac	194.80	205.00	-0.60	...
Pers Pens Acct	‡1616.6	...	+4.20	...
Pens Mngd Acct	751.70	791.30	+2.10	...
Pens Guarantee	220.70	232.30	+0.30	...
Pens Equity	285.80	300.80	-0.30	...
Pens Property	230.40	242.60	+0.90	...
Pens Fixed Int	249.30	262.40	+0.10	...
Pens Intl	213.00	224.20	+3.40	...
Pens Money	221.60	233.30	+0.30	...
Pens Indx-Lnkd	182.50	192.10	-0.20	...
SUN LIFE UNIT St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL 0272 426911				
Managed Acc	779.60	820.70	+12.80	...
Property Acc	287.60	303.10	+7.10	...
Equity Acc	1273.2	1340.3	+22.70	...
Fixed Int Acc	356.30	375.10	+1.10	...
Index-Linked Acc	191.10	201.20	+0.10	...
Cash Acc	292.70	309.20	+0.10	...
Amer Equity Acc	327.90	345.20	+7.20	...
Japan Acc	298.30	314.10	+3.90	...
Pacific Acc	286.90	302.10	+13.00	...
Far Eastern Acc	684.80	720.90	+16.30	...
International Acc	490.80	516.70	+7.40	...
Distribution Fund	265.40	279.40	-6.20	6.71
European	153.40	161.50	+1.40	...
TSB LIFE LTD Charlton Place, Andover, Hants SP10 1RE 0264 345678				
Managed Fund	251.80	265.10	+3.50	...
Property Fund	180.20	189.70	...	...
Fixed Interest Fd	205.60	216.50	+0.40	...
Money Fund	190.00	200.00	+0.20	...
Equity Fund	327.70	345.00	+5.40	...
TARGET LIFE The Exchange, 66 High Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. 0296 394000				
Deposit	238.20	250.90	+0.20	...
Financial Ser I	39.10	42.00	+0.80	...
Fixed Interest	312.90	329.40	+0.90	...
Gold	76.50	80.60	+6.50	...
Managed	539.40	567.80	+8.00	...
Mngd Growth	168.90	177.80	+2.20	...
Mngd Opp	176.30	185.60	+3.10	...
Property	247.70	260.80	-5.90	...
Residential Prop	90.90	95.70	...	...
TSB American	183.40	193.10	+4.20	...
TSB Brit Gwth	720.50	758.50	+17.20	...
TSB European	237.00	249.50	+2.00	...
TSB Income	347.50	365.80	+4.00	...
TSB Intl	370.40	389.90	+8.50	...
TSB Intl Inc	269.70	283.90	+2.20	...
TSB Pacific	338.30	356.20	+16.20	...
TSB Prem Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...

Fight over dwindling treasure

By the time the Goode Committee decides who owns pension surpluses, there is likely to be little left to fight over. This week, BT revealed that its main pension fund had gone through £2 billion in a year and, in January, had a £750 million deficit.

About half the schemes represented by the National Association of Pension Funds are taking pension contribution holidays or making reduced payments. Surprisingly few have taken the opportunity to cut existing members' pension payments. Perhaps they worry that employees might become profligate if they did not have 4 per cent or more taken from their salaries, and not be able to cope when the contributions were reinstated.

Other companies are using chunks of the accumulated wealth of their pension funds to bolster their businesses. These raids can take place even when schemes' rules forbid them. Lucas pensioners have been fighting for years to establish that scheme rules should not be overridden by employers. In November, the High Court will be asked to rule on whether Lucas was entitled to take £375 million from a £600 million surplus when the rules denied the employer access to the money.

There have been disputes over the ownership of surpluses since they were first identified. Companies that take money out have a 40 per cent tax penalty to pay on the money they sequester. There are no similar penalties when they stop funding a pension for several years.

The news that BT's giant pension fund could suffer such a dramatic turnround over such a short period must worry many employees and pensioners in smaller organisations. Many firms have extended early retirement to those in their fifties, to get them off the payroll. Private-sector firms generally are less generous than BT, with its public-sector history, but the temptation has been there to improve the pensions deal without financing it properly.



COMMENT

LINDSAY COOK
WEEKEND MONEY EDITOR

Add to this the lower investment returns of the past few years, the effect of the Budget change to advance corporation tax (which cuts the gross income of funds invested in the UK by as much as 6.25 per cent), and the fact that pensioners are living longer, and more and more actuaries will be looking at a narrowing gap between assets and liabilities.

This is not too worrying if the company has been tremendously profitable and can dig into those profits to restore the pension fund, as BT has set about doing. If a company has been struggling to survive, however, the erosion of a pension fund might mean it cannot meet its liabilities.

In the seventies, when companies faced soaring wage inflation, many had to supplement their pension funds, as investment returns could not keep pace. In final salary schemes, liabilities grow with staff pay. Companies must be grateful that wage rises for most employees are currently running at no more than 3 to 4 per cent. The Goode Committee will report in the autumn on pension surpluses, the need or otherwise for independent trustees, and how pension funds can be safeguarded from predators.

Its recommendations will take at least another year to become law and, as BT pension fund members have discovered, much can happen to a fund in a year.

New dealing

It is good to see that small investors will be listened to more closely before a replacement for the disastrous Taurus paperless share-dealing system is devised. Taurus, had it got under way, offered much to the big boys but little to ordinary investors except worry about the security of their stock.

Next month, the task force set up when the Taurus scheme collapsed is to report. It is still ploughing through hundreds of submissions and is finding out what investors need. This is not higher prices and less security.

Many investors are standing on the sidelines, wishing they had the courage to buy shares but made afraid by the complexity of the system. If they knew they had ten days to pay whenever they bought stock, and that they would receive a cheque or credit ten days after selling stock, it would be a start.

This period gives time for money to be transferred from savings accounts and for cheques to be written and cleared. But it does not require investors to know whether they are dealing on the first, or last, day of account and whether it is a two-week or three-week period.

With recent privatisations, investors have been mystified as to why they had to wait weeks for payment if they did not deal within a day of receiving their certificates. A rolling settlement system would remove confusion and the feeling of many private investors that they are getting a worse deal than the institutions.

Chill wind from City blights green hope

By Liz Dolan

NEWS that Henderson Crosthwaite, the stockbroking firm, was cancelling its annual newsletter on green issues came as Body Shop, a favourite "green" stock among investors, unveiled its first profits fall since flotation.

David Edwards, the broker's charities director, cites scanty demand from clients and lacklustre performance by green stocks as reasons for the cancellation. "We decided there wasn't sufficient demand from our clients, and that there was not sufficient evidence over the last few years to suggest green or ethical investment would benefit investors," he said.

When Norwich Union's specialist ethical analyst left at the end of last year, a replacement was considered unnecessary because "we believed that we already had enough resources in this area". The functions of a dedicated analyst have been "redistributed among the other analysts". Norwich Union added that it did not have a dedicated green fund because it lacked the specialist knowledge to manage one, but stressed that it was "still conscious of the issue".

Supporters of environmentally friendly investment accuse City fainthearts of putting their heads in the sand.

Tessa Tennant, head of the environmental research unit at Jupiter Tyndall Merlin, the investment house, said of Henderson's view: "This is typical of the City. It really does appear to think that the whole issue has gone away. It doesn't understand what's going on at all."

Henderson Crosthwaite says most specialist green funds that have grown up over the past few years have failed to perform and done little more than salve their shareholders' consciences. It says it will still listen to clients who wish to invest in environmentally friendly stocks, but "we may suggest that such admirable intentions may be better met by a donation to one of the many charities serving those causes".

Roger Hardman, an analyst at James Capel, the stockbroking firm, said that, with the exception of waste disposal companies, which had been a "dead loss" over the past two years, green shares had generally kept pace with the rest of the stock market.

Over the past three months, the FT-SE 100 index had fallen by 2.1 per cent, exactly twice as much as the James Capel green index. Over a year, the FT-SE had outperformed the green index, rising 5.3 per cent, compared with 0.7 per cent; over two years, however, the green index had risen by 16 per cent, two percentage points higher than the FT-SE. The waste index had fallen by 15.7 per cent, 25.9 per cent and 40.4 per cent over the same periods.

Had Henderson Crosthwaite decided to publish the newsletter, it would have had to report losses on four of the six stocks recommended in 1992, two of them substantial.

Shares in Bimec, a water and waste treatment company, plunged from 55p to 8¾p over the year; Caird, a waste disposal group, slumped from 90p to 23½p; Archer Daniels, an American corn refiner, slipped from $24.6 to $24; and the CU Environmental investment trust shed 6p to 101p.

There is evidence that, although interest in green investment from major institutions is mixed, enthusiasm among private investors continues to grow. Friends Provident's Stewardship fund has seen the amount under management leap from £105 million to £280 million in the past 15 months.

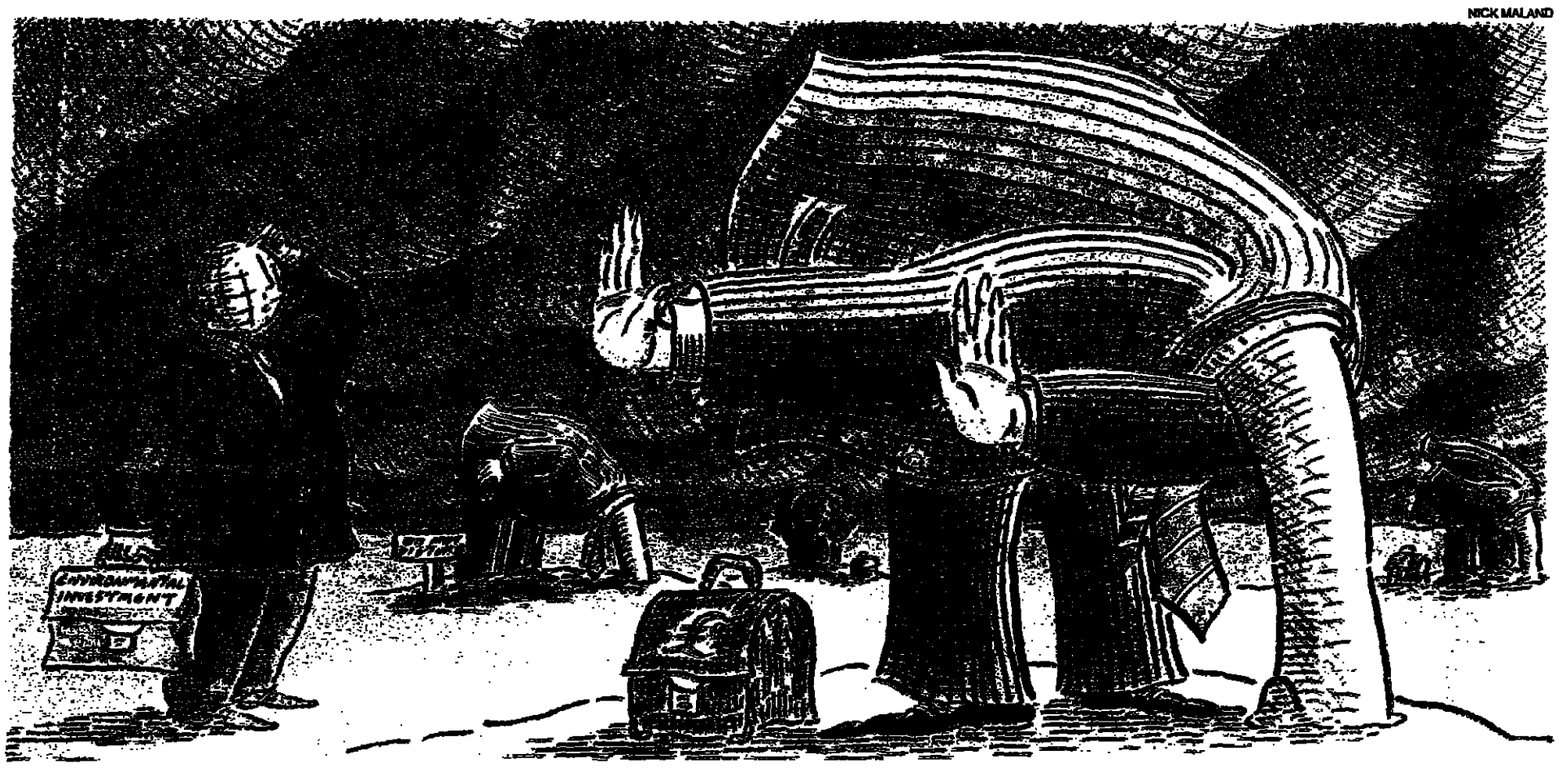
Peter Silvester, investment director, points out that some of that increase is due to recent stock market increases, but reports that the client base is still growing. However, he says that although people are increasingly aware of environmental and ethical issues, they are still ignorant about what ethical investment actually means. Some people seek out specialist financial advisers, rather than rely on the knowledge of more conventional intermediaries, several of whom still fail to mention ethical investment unless prompted by clients. Lee Coates, director of Ethical Investors Group, said: "More people want to be ethical, but a lot of them don't want to give their business to people who just pay lip service." The Ethical Investment Research Information Service says it has been "besieged with phone calls" following an appearance by Peter Webster, its director, on BBC Radio's *Money Box* three weeks ago.

One problem that has persistently dogged the sector is how to judge whether a company is "green" or "ethical". Purists such as Jupiter Tyndall Merlin and Clerical Medical have much stricter criteria than, say, CIS, or TSB. CIS was stung by recent criticism that some stocks in its Environ unit trust were less than ethically sound.

It said: "Yes, we are more broadly based than some, but we do stick to reasonable criteria. We invested in Allied Colloids because it was doing worthy environmental work. We didn't know that it was going to have a fire that would cause pollution. We may scratch it from our portfolio if the court decides it was negligent. Huntingdon International was also doing important environmental research work — some of which, it's true, involved animal testing, but not on cosmetics. It's extremely difficult to operate under set rules, bearing in mind the hope of getting a decent return as well."

A spokesman pointed out that Environ had recently beaten all other environmental funds in unit trust performance tables, and came second in the ethical sector. He said: "Our fund is for the average consumer. I'm not sure how big the market is for ... I can't use words like fanatics or pedants ... but for people who are very serious about the subject."

NICK MALAND



'Most green funds have done little more than salve shareholders' consciences'

Charities tussle with investment ethics

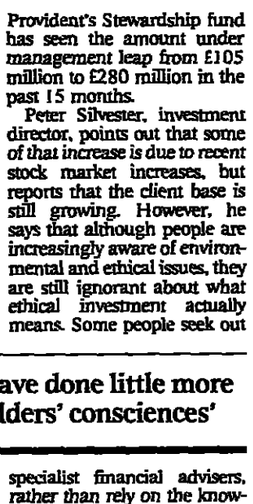
CHARITIES are in something of a cleft stick where green, or ethical, considerations are concerned (Liz Dolan writes). On the one hand, trustees are coming under growing pressure to maximise returns on charitable funds; on the other, more and more people are showing an interest in how their money is invested.

Opinions differ about where the balance currently lies between purely financial and purely ethical considerations. According to Lee Coates, of Ethical Investors Group, the specialist financial adviser, an increasing number of charities are submitting their portfolios to rigorous health checks.

He reports a surge of interest in ethical investment from charities in the wake of a court ruling in October 1991 in a case brought by Richard Harries, the Bishop of Oxford, against the Church Commissioners, who control the Church of England's investments. While the judge supported the commissioners' contention that they should maximise the value of funds, the ruling carried a strong implication that people who gave to charity might have the legal right to reclaim their money if they subsequently found it had been invested in unacceptable areas. Mr Coates said: "I've had more inquiries from charities in the last few months than I've had in the past three and a half years. They are petrified that they will lose money unless their investment criteria fit in with the rest of their aims."

According to David Edwards, charities director, Henderson Crosthwaite, the trend has, if anything, moved in the opposite direction. Trustees are now more likely to ask whether they are justified in imposing ethical restrictions on the growth of the fund, rather than the other way round, he claims.

Peter Silvester, investment director of Friends' Provident, feels that the biggest problem with ethical and green funds is that many are seen as high-risk or under-performers. Friends' Provident's stewardship fund, managing £280 million of the total £400 million-plus invested in UK ethical funds, is the oldest and largest on the market. Mr Silvester said: "If charities put their money into our trust they will be able to demonstrate that we have been up at the top of performance tables for most of the past nine years."



Harries: court ruling

Oxfam was surprised that other charities were bothered about investments, ethical or otherwise. It said: "We don't have a large amount to invest because we spend the money as quickly as possible. We don't buy equities because the funds must be readily available and transferable to all parts of the world." The money is kept on deposit with the large clearing banks. The Co-op, which has a strict ethical code, is too small for Oxfam's complex requirements. However, Oxfam's staff pension fund is 40 per cent invested in ethical schemes and the proportion is growing. This is in line with staff wishes.

The Charities Aid Foundation, which acts as a conduit between donors and charities, said the Church Commissioners court ruling had left the situation for charities "fairly unclear". The case highlighted the already generally accepted fact that, although a charity's first duty was to maximise returns, some areas of investment were inappropriate in individual cases. An obvious abuse would be if a cancer charity put money into a tobacco company.

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Dodging EC pension snags

It is vital to check the pension options before deciding to work abroad. **Helen Pridham** explains some of the issues involved

A RECENT Gallup poll survey found that one in two Britons would like to live abroad. However, anyone thinking of working elsewhere in the European Community should consider carefully how such a move will affect their future pension position. Despite increasing EC harmonisation, there are still enormous differences in countries' pension arrangements.

George Clare, European specialist at R Watson, the actuary, says: "People who move around in the EC may well be able to get better salaries, but they could find themselves penalised on the pension front."

Some countries, such as Italy, have very generous state pension schemes, so there are not many company pension schemes. In others, such as Germany, company schemes are more common, but early leavers are treated differently than in the UK. Personal pension plans are rare outside the UK. If an employee contributes to a state pension scheme in another EC country, he or she normally will receive some pension from that scheme whether remaining there or returning to the UK to retire.

If they retire in the UK, the pension either will be sent directly to the employee, or the Department of Social Security will collect it on their behalf and provide the sterling equivalent added to the UK pension.

If a host country has a generous state scheme, there may seem every incentive to join it immediately. But Keith Faulkner of William Mercer, an international actuary and benefit consultant, says: "If you are likely to stay for only a year or two it is possible, and may indeed be advisable, to remain in the British social security system.

"While another country's scheme may provide higher benefits, it will usually cost a lot more and the eventual pension will be in another currency, so you can't be sure what you will end up with."

If an employee is being sent to another EC country by a UK employer to work for a subsidiary or associate company, it is possible to remain within a UK pension scheme for three years, and it is planned to extend this period to ten years.

For anyone working for a foreign employer and joining that company's pension scheme, it is particularly important to find out how long they will have to remain in the scheme before qualifying for a preserved pension. If an employee leaves the company before retirement without completing sufficient years of service, it is possible to lose all pension rights. Once the position is clarified it is possible to work out what other retirement provision may need to be made. In the UK, in contrast, employees receive a preserved benefit after they have been in an employer's pension scheme for two years (those who leave earlier receive a refund of their own contributions).

In the EC, pensions practice varies widely. According to William Mercer's International Benefit Guidelines, at one end of the scale is the Netherlands, where only one year's membership is necessary to qualify for a preserved pension. At the other end, in Portugal, it is rare for any pension rights to be granted if an employee leaves before retirement, however many years' service they have completed.

In Germany, employees must have either completed ten years' service as a member of a pension scheme, or 12 years' service with a company, three of them under the pension plan, to have a legal right to a preserved pension. So people who leave to return to the UK after, say, nine years in the scheme, would lose their right to a pension from that scheme. German schemes are mainly funded by the employer, rather than the employee.

In Belgium the position varies according to whether the company has its own pension fund, or operates an insured scheme. Insured schemes will provide a preserved pension after five years' membership, but with pension funds this is not compulsory, though it is common after five years.

These variations show how vital it is for expatriates to find out exactly where they stand and the likely value of any preserved or final pension in relation to salary. People returning to the UK will still face uncertainty because of fluctuations in exchange rates unless there is some form of European monetary union by then.

Those who want to make additional savings towards retirement may find there are tax-efficient local savings schemes available. Some people may prefer the idea of sending money back to the UK to build up for their retirement. Contributions to a UK personal pension scheme are not accepted from people with no UK income, but it is possible for them to take out an offshore pension plan. A number of UK insurers run schemes from the Isle of Man and the Channel Isles. Tax relief on contributions from the host country is unlikely, but the money would roll up free of tax. The capital could then be brought in on returning to the UK and used to purchase an annuity to secure a permanent retirement income. People who decide to retire abroad, will receive benefits from any pension rights acquired in the UK in the usual way.

Normally the money will be forwarded in sterling, but personal pension plan holders with large insurers, such as Legal & General, can arrange for foreign-currency cheques to be sent for a fee of about £30 a year.

Ideally, people should find out as much as they can about a country's pension arrangements and how they will be affected personally before leaving the UK. Many large firms of actuaries have international departments able to provide such information.



Cautious steps: the long-term prospects for pensions in Europe should be explored

Into gear for a gamble

PEOPLE who can afford to lose at least £5,000 on a high risk, high return gamble may wish to consider a punt in the country's first geared futures and options unit trust, to be launched next Monday (Liz Dolan writes).

The Govett Geared UK Index Fund tracks the performance of the FT-SE 100 index but, by borrowing against future performance, its underlying value can rise, or fall, by roughly double the amount as the index itself over the same period.

To do this, the fund managers buy FT-SE 100 futures contracts worth twice as much as the value of the fund. Consequently, the effects of any movement by the index will be doubled where the fund's value is concerned. On the upside, this means that, if the index rises 20 per cent in a day, the Govett fund will rise by 40 per cent. On the downside, if it falls 20 per cent, the fund falls by 40 per cent. In the worst case, if the index were to fall by 50 per cent overnight, the value of the fund would fall by 100 per cent, and investors would have lost all their money. However, as with any unit trust, they can never lose more than their initial investment.



Pakenham: launching

The impact is less severe for falls over a longer period of time. If, for example, the index fell by 20 per cent for three consecutive days, at the end of the third day, the actual fall of the index would be 49 per cent, whereas the fund would have fallen by "only" 80 per cent, fund managers say.

Kevin Pakenham, chairman of John Govett, the company that manages the trust, said that the fund had been launched to take advantage of encouraging prospects for the FT-SE 100. People who shared this belief should invest now so that they can take full advantage of any subsequent rise. He said: "Investing now may be considered brave but, in many people's opinion, it is timely — and doubling the potential future gains of the FT-SE 100 is obviously a powerful attraction."

FTSE futures contracts, which currently cost around £70,000 each allow investors (in this case, fund managers) to put up a small percentage of the underlying value of the capital. If the FT-SE rises over the three-month life of the contract, the investor collects the equivalent value of that rise. If it falls, the investor has to meet the shortfall.

When geared futures and options unit trusts were first authorised two years ago, they were heavily criticised because of their high risk nature. Minimum initial investment in the Govett Geared UK Index Fund is £5,000. Subsequent additional payments must be at least £1,000. The initial charge is 5.25 per cent and the annual charge is 1 per cent.

Unitholders get three months' notice of any increase in annual charges, although these are prevented by company rules from rising to more than 2.5 per cent. John Govett is the unit trust arm of Govett & Co, a Jersey-based company listed on the London exchange.

BRIEFINGS

Lloyds Bank is being more generous to its student customers from this autumn. They are being offered an interest-free overdraft of up to £400 this year, and unlike previous years it will remain interest-free, however much they spend. Previously the bank gave students an interest-free loan so long as they did not exceed the limit. Once they went above the limit they were charged interest on the whole loan. Now the bank will charge interest at 0.9 per cent, an annual percentage rate of 11.3 per cent, on the amount over £400. The free loan and concessionary rates are available only by prior negotiation, says the bank, which also offers students 1 per cent interest when their accounts are in credit. First-year students also get a free Young Persons Railcard worth £16 and commission-free currency and travellers cheques. Lloyds is the first of the big four banks to announce its student account details this year.

☐ Savers have not yet realised just how far interest rates have fallen, says Save & Prosper after surveying 1,000 adults. They thought, typically, that building societies were paying 4.7 per cent net on £1,000, whereas this was up to 50 per cent more than the typical instant access account. The group uses the information to highlight the return on its High Income Bond, which offers a return of 8 per cent or 10 per cent, although the capital may be eroded if the FT-SE 100 index goes down. Details are available on 0800 282101.

☐ Forte is offering a new low cost dealing service in its own shares. This allows investors to buy or sell the shares through a postal facility offered by Cazenove & Co. The cost is 1 per cent of the deal, with no minimum charge, although the minimum investment for a new investor is £500. Holders of 300 or more ordinary shares are entitled to apply for a Forte Gold card, which gives a 10 per cent discount on some Forte products.

☐ A new report on borrowing from Mintel, the research organisation, predicts that the public's fear of getting into debt will take a long time to reverse. Mintel's previous report on the subject was called Consumer Credit, but the latest edition is titled Debt to reflect new attitudes. Borrowing has fallen dramatically in the nineties, the survey discovered, although 1.8 million households still owe about £2 billion to 3.3 million creditors. The report, which claims to cover all aspects of consumer credit, is available on 071 606 6000 for £795.

☐ The private client division of Sheppards has been merged with WI Carr (Investments) and its name changed to Carr Sheppards.

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Investors ask police to find coin firm that disappeared

Tony Hetherington goes on the trail of an Irish coin dealer whose portfolios did not live up to its promises of rapid high profits

BRITISH investors have asked the police to help trace the directors of an investment company who have disappeared from their Dublin headquarters after failing to produce profits promised on portfolios of supposedly rare coins.

The International Coin Group, which was based in offices in Lower Leeson Street, central Dublin, claims in its glossy brochures that it employs top numismatic specialists. But investors who have received mailshots and telephone calls from the company have been sold what one expert describes as "junk".

And an investigation by *The Times* shows that the men behind the Dublin firm include two former salesmen from a London broker which was closed down by the High Court; a man who owes American investors $3.5 million after a big international swindle; and a one-time broker who served a prison term for fraud.

Mr John Henderson, a pensioner from Aberdeen, invested £2,000 in two portfolios of coins. A salesman from the International Coin Group told him he was guaranteed to make at least 20 per cent profit in 90 days if he bought coins, which would be held in safe keeping in vaults in Canada.

But when details of his first portfolio arrived, he found he had bought an undistinguished collection of 30 coins, all but one from either Canada or the United States, and some dated as recently as 1966 and 1967. He said: "I was well and truly conned."

Mr Henderson has contacted his local police, who have already been in touch with their opposite numbers in Dublin.

Mark Rasmussen, of Spink & Son, the London coin dealer, said those coins dated before 1930 might be valuable if their condition proved to be absolutely superb. But one Dutch coin did not belong in the collection at all. "It is a bullion coin, with a value relative to silver, and cannot be considered an investment coin," he explained.

In fact, the inclusion of the Dutch silver coin in Mr Henderson's portfolio contradicts the International Coin Group's own literature. This says: "Rare coins are not bullion coins." Bullion coins such as Krugerrands are nothing more than a convenient way to trade in gold or silver... At International Coin Group we deal exclusively in investment grade rare coins."

Mr Roy Clement of Woking, another investor, paid £1,950 for four portfolios prepared by the International Coin Group. One, said to be worth £500, consists of two dozen coins, all but one Canadian, and none dating from before 1919. The majority bear dates in the 1950s and 1960s.

Mr Rasmussen said of the modern coins: "They are junk, to be honest." Only two coins might be worthwhile as investments, and then only if in superb condition. "If they should show any signs of wear, then I would have thought that the value of this portfolio would be perhaps £100," he added.

'They are junk, to be honest — only two might be worthwhile as investments and then only if in superb condition'

Both Mr Clement and Mr Henderson made unsuccessful requests for International Coin Group to sell their portfolios.

Mr Clement said: "The coins I invested in were to be sold and the cash returned to me by December 15. Then they said it would be the last week in March." Mr Clement has now written to the fraud squad in Dublin.

Enquiries in Dublin show that International Coin Group Limited has had a series of directors since it commenced operations about a year ago. They include Mark Stephen Dalton, Simon Darcy Gaches, Robert Rodda, and Kenneth Lyle Desmarais.

Mr Dalton and Mr Gaches were both employed as salesmen by Greenwood International, a London stockbroking business which was closed down in 1987 by High Court order at the request of the trade department. The court order followed evidence that Greenwood had come under the influence of professional swindlers from Canada, who were using it to promote dud shares.

Mr Dalton then went on to work for Pantell, an investment company, which operated from Lugano and Munich. The Securities & Investments Board won court orders seizing Pantell's UK bank accounts, and returned hundreds of thousands of pounds to investors.

Mr Rodda, a Canadian, is known to Dutch police as a director of Winning Edge Marketing, a lottery company. Three years ago this was the subject of numerous complaints about high prices and misleading literature.

Mr Desmarais was a stockbroker in Vancouver until, in the mid-1980s, he was jailed for a year after swindling thousands of customers of Innovative Supplies Limited, a company he headed.

Mr Desmarais claimed that if they bought lactobacillus cultures from him and stored them at home, they would later be able to sell them to a cosmetics company at a 300 per cent mark-up. The cosmetics company was operated by associates of Mr Desmarais, and the claim was false.

Another man, said by sources in Dublin to be behind the International Coin Group, is Gary Anderson, a Canadian fraudster. Before the company left its offices in the Irish capital, the receptionist confirmed that Mr Anderson was present there.

He is well known to financial regulators in a number of countries. He was a director of Greenwood International in London, worked with Mr Rodda in his lottery company in Amersterdam, and in 1991 was ordered by a court in Washington DC to repay $3.5 million from customers of Growth Capital Securities, a stockbroking firm he operated.

Recently all the directors and staff of the International Coin Group disappeared from their Dublin offices. Clients were told that for tax reasons, the company had moved to Antwerp.

It was due to open offices there on April 1, but at the Antwerp address this week, a receptionist said: "They were supposed to move in, but they have not arrived yet." She could only pass on messages, she said, to a fax number in Amsterdam.

A spokesman for the police in Dublin confirmed that a number of complaints had been received by the fraud squad.

He said: "I presume they are going obviously to use Interpol. The whole crowd has gone, lock, stock and barrel, from Lower Leeson Street."

JULIAN HERBERT



Complained to Irish fraud squad: Roy Clement, an investor of Woking

Nationwide tackles shortfall

NATIONWIDE Building Society is planning to contact borrowers whose endowment policies will not pay out enough to meet the mortgage when it falls due (Margaret Dibben writes).

The society has set up a working group with Guardian Royal Exchange, the insurance company to which it is tied, to assess the scope of the problem. The borrowers most at risk are those who bought low-cost with-profit policies between 1990 and 1992 with terms of ten to 15 years. If current bonus rates continue, some of these will not have enough money to repay their loans. Homeowners with 25-year loans will have enough time to ride the good years and bad before the policy matures. Initially, Nationwide is investigating only GRE policies but will later look at others.

A spokesman for Nationwide said: "On given current levels of bonus rates, any shortfall for these people is likely to be hundreds rather than thousands of pounds."

The Leeds Building Society carried out a similar exercise with Norwich Union this year. A spokesman for the Halifax said: "For us it is not an issue because whatever the situation when the policy matures, we would not expect borrowers to pay a lump sum if there was a shortfall." Instead customers would be given various options for repaying the money still owed. GRE did not take part in *Money Management's* annual survey of with-profit endowment results published this month.

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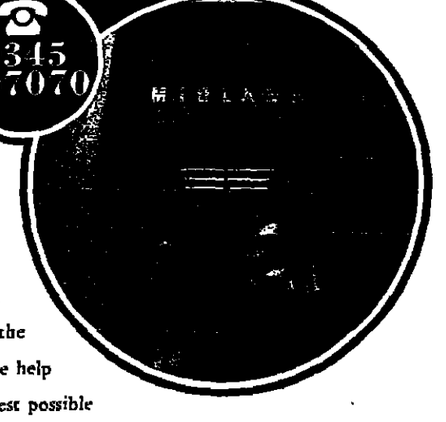
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Mortgages under the microscope

Increasing categories of borrowers have made lenders revert to scrutinising applications. **Nicola Cole** explains

AS mortgage lenders fast-pedal their promotion of mortgages for first-time buyers, more-conservative building societies are resurrecting their traditional reluctance to entertain what the Woolwich calls "just any borrowing proposition".

At the same time, the range of applicants who do not fit the administratively neat notions of the societies' marketing and lending departments has grown with the recession. According to the TSB, it is "impossible" to produce a cover-all mortgage: and if this was the case in the late 1980s, it is even more so now. For example, the number of single women first-time buyers aged 55 or over almost doubled last year as, according to Help the Aged observers in this designated European Year of Older People, senior citizens seek "independence in their own homes".

The borrowing spectrum also includes young couples with multiple part-time jobs, the rising ranks of the self-employed, council tenants exercising their right-to-buy, housing associations and other joint-ownership purchasers and self-build groups.

Signs of the new caution behind the public image include the refusal of many lenders to consider home-loan requests from people with county court judgments against them, and the care taken to avoid fraudulent approaches by former owners of repossessed properties.

Lower loan-to-valuation borrowing ratios and closer scrutiny of applicants' income and outgoings statements have also become common.

"No one is ever a straightforward case," according to one lender: yet shades linger of the "standard profile" customer: securely employed in a full-time job, earning an average industrial wage exceeding £15,000 annually, possessing a good savings/borrowing track record, and living with a spouse or partner making a steady £10,000 a year.

The Leeds Permanent says: "Each case is looked at on merit. We don't have criteria which apply to the 'type' of applicant." Says the Woolwich: "We lend to individuals, not on houses."

The extent of flexibility varies depending on the lender. Some offer dedicated deals for "third age" borrowers. Others, notably the main clearing banks, feel happier with mature customers but still tend to insist that mortgage advances are paid off "by normal retirement age".

What of the ambitious 22-year-old applicant beavering away at part-time jobs yet presently unable to find a full-time occupation? "Forget it," says Pauline Hedges, senior spokesperson for the Banking Information Service and a former bank manager.

"They're very young, not in suitable employment, have no security of tenure, are under the biggest peer pressures, and have the greatest need as regards furnishing a home and related expenses.

"I would recommend anyone in their own interests *not* to get into debt at the age of 22 to 25 but to save and save. You have to be cruel to be kind," she says.

Among the building societies contacted, the stock response was that ability to repay, not age, was the chief criterion. Young first-time applicants whose earnings come from more than one source, or who count on shift-work, bonuses or tips for a living wage, have their income "looked at carefully" to determine how secure it is, the Nationwide says. Employers' confirmation is sought.

The society's lending decision would be based on disposable income after taxation and outgoings (personal/family living costs, assessed on information supplied and government figures, existing loans and so on).

The Britannia has "no hard-and-fast rule" about applicants with several sources of earnings and is willing in principle to lend 60-95 per cent on the customary 2½-3 times' income multiple and to refer "particular cases to the top of the organisation" if need be.

For buyers aged 60 or over, the Nationwide offers interest-only mortgages with a maximum advance of 85 per cent.

The Leeds has an interest-only "maturity loan" available to borrowers on a state pension. Its ceiling is 60 per cent of the value of the property — a council house/flat, or private sheltered accommodation, for instance — and life insurance is required.

Many developers and some housing associations offer shared-equity schemes to people wanting a retirement apartment.

The self-employed usually have no problem if they can prove appropriate earnings. Another significant category comprises self-build groups. Where these have borrowed money to buy land and constructed their own homes, they should be able to convert the original funding arrangements into a separate mortgage for each member, with the new homes offered as security.

Spurred on by competition, banks and building societies are competitively developing more flexible deals.

An example is mobility mortgages, sanctioned by the Inland Revenue in March, which enables existing borrowers with the burden of negative equity to move without loss.

In the new age of caution, mortgage lenders deny any reliance on "gut-feel". "That's how mistakes are made," one says. Yet they still value old tenets such as "making a case" and encouraging a lender to "feel comfortable" with you.



Hopeful signs: but lenders may have to be convinced

Building societies' stock response was that ability to repay is the criterion.

Homebuyers still locking themselves in

BY LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR

FIXED-RATE mortgages are still popular with homebuyers, despite lenders increasing rates in the last few weeks. Longer terms are proving most attractive to borrowers and new offers promise interest-rate security for up to 25 years.

Lloyds Bank this week launched a 25-year, fixed-rate mortgage at 9.75 per cent, an annual percentage rate of 10.4 per cent. The rate is fixed to July 2018. Although the mortgage is 1.76 percentage points above Lloyds' current variable rate, it is lower than the average rate paid by borrowers for the past 25 years, which is 11.1 per cent.

Last year, the Leeds Permanent launched a 25-year fix at 11.25 per cent. It is still available, but is described by the society as a niche product. Only 500 to 600 borrowers have taken it on so far.

Simon Tyler, of Chase de Vere Home Loans, said well over 80 per cent of the mortgages the firm was arranging were for fixed rates and for three to five years. "Most people cannot see beyond five years. There are some bargains to be had at ten years. They are often only 0.5 percentage points more for 60 months' extra piece of mind."

Lloyds Bank has a ten-year fix at 8.99 per cent (APR 9.2 per cent) and a five-year one at 7.99 per cent (8.4 per cent). The bank says the average mortgage rate over the past decade was 12.1 per cent.

All the fixed-rate mortgages have a £250 commitment fee. The redemption penalty on the 25-year fix is ten months' interest. Over ten years it is six months and over five and two years it is three months. The fixed rates can be transferred to other homes during the period.

Rates have been edging up for fixed-rate mortgages as money markets firm and lenders decide that buyers no longer need loss leaders to attract them into the market.

The Halifax launched a five-year fix to August 1998 this week at 8.55 per cent (APR 8.7 per cent) for those wanting to borrow up to 75 per cent of properties' value and at 8.99 per cent (APR 9 per cent) for loans up to 95 per cent. It also has loans at 7.99 per cent (APR 8.4 per cent) to August 1996 and 6.99 per cent (APR 8.4 per cent) to February 1995.

The shorter fixes have a £200 arrangement fee; for the longer ones, it is £250.

Abbey National has also noticed increased demand for longer fixes. It will launch a loan at 7.95 per cent (APR 8.4 per cent) on Monday, set until February 1996. The booking fee is £250 and 90 days' interest will be charged for early redemptions. The Leeds has a three-year fix at 7.85 per cent (APR 8.2 per cent), which has a £150 arrangement fee.

Portman Building Society has replaced its previous fixed rates with a five-year guarantee at 8.99 per cent (APR 9.5 per cent) or a ten-year fix at 9.99 per cent (APR 10.6 per cent). Neither involves an application fee or compulsory insurance, other than standard buildings cover. The society still has two-year fixes at 6.25 per cent for loans up to 75 per cent of the value. These have a £250 arrangement fee.

Birmingham Midshires has a 7.7 per cent fix (APR 8.2 per cent) to February 1997. This has no compulsory insurance. It is also offering a discounted mortgage at 5.99 per cent (APR 8.1 per cent) for the first 12 months. After that it reverts to the variable rate, which is currently 7.99 per cent.

The Newcastle has three-year fixes at 7.99 per cent (9.3 per cent APR) and five-year guaranteed rates at 8.49 per cent (APR 9.5 per cent). Both are fully portable and the fee is £195 for a homebuyer and £295 for someone wanting to remortgage.

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Brokers seek new start after Taurus

Margaret Dibben *reports on the higher priority given to small investors in plans for a better electronic share-dealing system*

THE interests of private shareholders are being considered closely as the replacement share-dealing system for Taurus is devised. This means that share buying should be simpler once the new system comes into effect, probably in a year's time. But investors may find that stockbrokers insist their shares are held in nominee accounts.

A taskforce was set up to recommend an improved method of share dealing when the Taurus scheme collapsed, and it is due to report at the end of June. The committee is headed by Pen Kent, a director of the Bank of England, and is now reading through some 450 submissions. It is already becoming clear that the needs of private shareholders will be given a higher priority than they were with Taurus.

Private client stockbrokers want to ensure that small investors do not have to pay a higher price than institutions for their shares. Mike Jones, technical services director of Capel-Cure Myers, said: "Unless clients have the ability to settle the trade in much the same timescale as an institution, there could be a danger that they will have to accept a second-class price. We would seek to avoid that and we argue strenuously that no client should be disadvantaged."

Stockbrokers want a new system in place as quickly as possible, but they do not want to repeat the costs of the aborted Taurus system.

David Jones, chief executive of Sharelink, the telephone-based dealing scheme, said: "The new system needs to be realistic and achievable and we should build on things that already exist." Mike Jones agrees: "I believe that the right solution has to be based on the existing Talisman system, which has worked without a hiccup for 15 years." With Talisman, deals are settled electronically between broker and market maker but investors still receive a share certificate and have their ownership registered wih the company.

Taurus would have abolished share certificates, but some stockbrokers argue that investors should have the option of keeping them. At the same time, the certificates could be improved by having a transfer form printed on the back, which would speed the process of selling.

One area almost certain to be overhauled is the old Stock Exchange account-settlement period, although some brokers argue in favour of keeping it. The existing system enables investors to buy and sell as often as they like within the set timescale and pay up on settlement day, which can be up to three weeks later.

The new system could involve rolling settlement, which means paying up straight away, as is already the case for gilts and overseas shares. The most likely arrangement will be rolling settlement requiring payment only ten working days after the deal is done. This is being called T+10 — trade day plus ten — which is a similar period to the existing system but has the advantage of being fixed.

Buyers give an order on trade day, receive a contract from the broker on T+1, and send off a cheque that arrives, say, on T+3. The cheque then takes up to five days to clear, so the broker will have the money by T+8 and still have two days spare before he or she has to pay the market. When an investor buys shares, the broker accepts responsibility for the purchase. If the investor fails to pay, the broker has to come up with the money. To speed up payment, David Jones is calling for debit cards to become an accepted method of paying for shares.

He said: "You can quote the card number over the phone and there is no more risk than at present. In fact there is added security because shares can only be registered in the name of the debit card owner, whereas if you have a stolen card and you order a case of wine, it arrives at your address and you can drink it."

Banks' stockbroking subsidiaries will arrange a direct debit from investors' cheque accounts, but not through Switch or Delta debit cards.

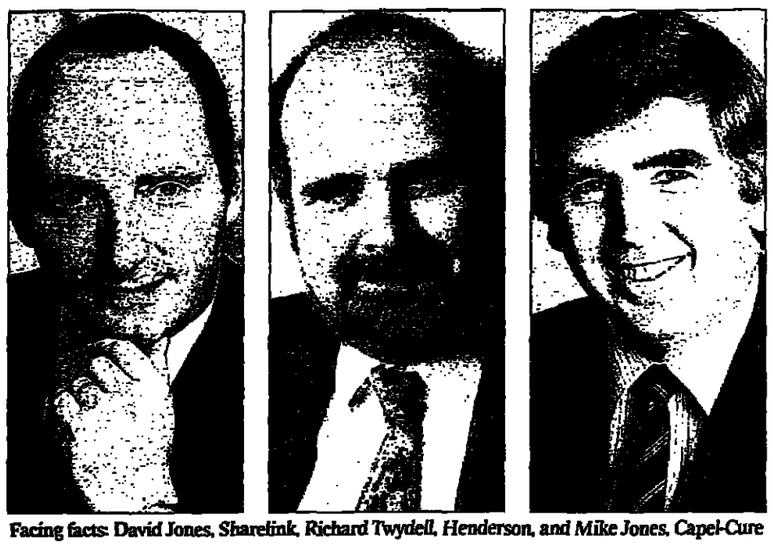
There is a possibility of moving to T+5 or even T+3, about which brokers are less happy. Richard Twydell, marketing manager of Henderson Crosthwaite, explained: "If it gets difficult, brokers will want the cash in advance."

When it comes to selling, brokers might not operate for clients unless they already have custody of share certificates, which means they operate as a nominee company. These companies are likely to be more widely used for private shareholders. At present there are several drawbacks to using nominees, but there is nothing to stop these being reversed. Most important, running a nominee company is not an activity requiring Financial Services Act authorisation, so there is no automatic protection for investors.

The Securities and Investments Board (SIB) has ruled that money is protected if it is held by nominee companies run by institutions that come within the FSA.

The SIB is carrying out a general study of custody arrangements that should be published as a discussion document within the next six weeks. Under the nominee system, investors do not receive shareholder perks, such as P&O's cross-Channel ferry discounts, but again this could be changed.

There are also advantages to the nominee system. Mike Jones said: "When a stockbroker acts as nominee, this takes the hassle and paperwork out of clients' hands."



Facing facts: David Jones, Sharelink, Richard Twydell, Henderson, and Mike Jones, Capel-Cure

Cheques and balances

Anti-fraud rules restrict the bank pay-in process, says Lindsay Cook

BANK customers who use more than one branch of their own bank or, for convenience, one of another bank, can fall foul of rules devised to prevent fraud or the laundering of money.

The rules were introduced because banks were afraid that the additional delays to clear cheques paid in through another branch could allow a fraudulent customer to withdraw cash elsewhere in the network before it was discovered that the cheque was a dud.

This can have unfortunate repercussions for customers who live and bank in one place and work elsewhere.

Lloyds Bank has a rule that, if its customers want to pay a cheque of £1,000 or more into a branch other than their own, the cheque has to be sent to the branch where the account is held before the clearing procedure can begin. This holds up the process a day or so and may cause an overdraft.

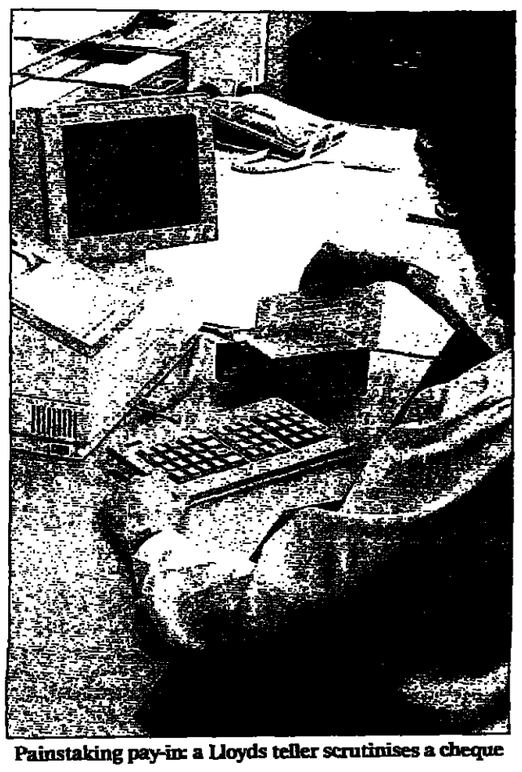
Confusion can also occur when the staff in branches do not follow the procedure properly. One reader found that he was not allowed to pay his Barclaycard account over the counter at a Lloyds branch that he regularly uses because he was using a cheque drawn on his wife's account, for the bill of £2,688. The branch said the amount exceeded the guarantee limit. He was told that, if he wanted to pay the account in his own branch, he could do so. The reader, a former employee of the bank and an account holder of 37 years' standing, was unable to pay the bill or to talk to anyone senior in the branch to reason with them.

It is unlikely that a customer would use a fraudulent cheque to pay a credit card account as the fraudster would be identified when the cheque bounced. The bank said that on this occasion the branch should have accepted the cheque, but it should have charged the customer £5 for the service for accepting the third-party cheque.

Barclays would have accepted the cheque because it was to pay a Barclaycard account but, if it had been drawn on an account other than Barclays for another third party, it would not have accepted it. The bank's customers can, however, use any branch without delays in cheques being cleared, said a spokesman. "If a non-Barclays customer wants to use our counter to pay into an account other than ours, we will not accept it," he said.

Midland has no limit on cheques paid by its own customers, but it has a different procedure for cheques drawn on other banks, so that the cheques can be followed through the clearing system. If a customer regularly uses the branch, staff would more readily accept the payments.

National Westminster Bank allows its own customers to use any branch to pay in cheques of any amount.



Painstaking pay-in: a Lloyds teller scrutinises a cheque

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T7/5/93

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T 15/5/93

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Time to start thawing out that 'other' frozen pension

From Dr C. W. Painter

Sir, Regarding the revaluation of "frozen" pensions (Social Security Act 1990) Mitchell Philpott, Director, Norex Pensions Communications, (Letters, April 24) failed to mention that other, oft-forgotten, often unclaimed, "frozen" pension: namely the Equivalent Pension Benefit (EPB).

Under the National Insurance Act 1965 (Contracting Out) regulations, pension schemes that were contracted out of the state scheme took part of the pension contributions for an EPB.

On leaving a company's employment, no matter what the circumstances (whether he/she withdrew contributions or transferred them, etc), a contracted-out member was to be entitled to a non-commutable, non-assignable pension (EPB), at the age of 60 (females), 65 (males). This must be at least equal to the maximum graduated pension for the same period under the state scheme. Equally that EPB must receive at least any additional benefits provided subsequently to that company's pensions.

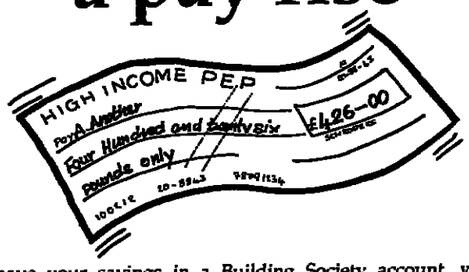
This particular element was ended by the Social Security Pensions Act 1975. It does mean that many pensioners (and deceased pensioners' estates) are still entitled to that EPB locked ("frozen") in those schemes.

Mr Philpott said that eventually all surpluses within pension schemes will have to be used to revalue "frozen" benefits. Do those terms within the 1990 Act also mean that EPBs will also receive the same unexpected boost?

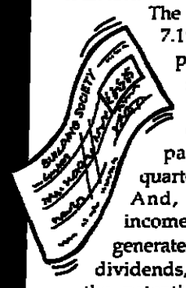
Yours faithfully,
C. W. PAINTER,
3 Temple Road,
Stowmarket,
Suffolk.

SCHRODER HIGH INCOME PEP

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Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. The value of investments and the income from them may go down as well as up and the investor may not get back the amount originally invested. Tax levels and reliefs are those currently applicable and may change. The value of any tax relief depends on personal circumstances.

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LETTERS

Research behind simpler tax form

From Mr Bob Hooper

Sir, In his letter to you (Weekend Money, May 1), Gordon Connelly comments on the new design for tax returns which we introduced this year.

I am sorry that Mr Connelly is unhappy with the new return form because it was designed with the specific intention that it should be easier for people to understand and fill in correctly.

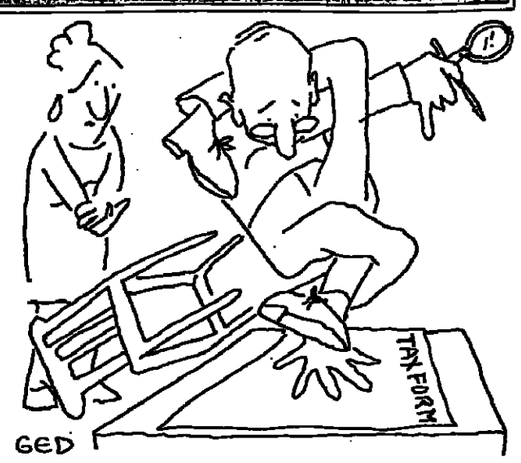
We wanted to know what the public thought of the old form. So, before redesigning it, we commissioned independent researchers to ask a selection of people, including accountants, how it might be improved. The new design took account of what they told us.

As Mr Connelly says, the form is longer than it used to be. That is because we have tried to put most of the information which people need to help them complete it onto the form itself, rather than in the accompanying guidance notes. We think this will make it simpler.

It is important for us to know what people think of the new form, so we will be undertaking more research to see whether or not the new design is working in practice. We have already written to a number of professional bodies, including the chartered accountants, asking for their views.

If changes are needed to make the form more user-friendly, we shall certainly see what can be done. But we already know that many people are finding the new tax form to be an improvement.

Yours faithfully,
BOB HOOPER
Head of Corporate Communications,
Inland Revenue,
Room 9/7,
North West Wing,
Bush House, WC2.



Taxpayers are getting in a worse tangle

From Miss W. E. Longden

Sir, Not only is the Tax form in a tangle (G. Connelly, Letters May 1), but so are many individual taxpayers endeavouring to complete them. Far from being more helpful, the innumerable notes are most confusing, the spaces for answers are so cramped that not only is good eyesight necessary but several separate sheets will be required to accommodate the information.

Having successfully managed to deal with my Income Tax Return for over 60 years, I now fear (as Mr. Connelly surmises) I shall be forced to go to the expense of employing an accountant.

I wonder, however, how many of the returns the Inland Revenue will be able to check and what they propose to do about those incorrectly filled in (of which I suspect there are bound to be a great number).

Yours faithfully,
W. E. LONGDEN,
Riverside Court,
Boroughbridge,
York.

Getting the best return on children's savings

From Mr P. S. Brown

Sir, Regarding the letter by Mrs M Barger (Try a double transaction to skirt National Savings minimum deposit, May 8). It may not be done as you have to give a month's notice.

However, I have a suggestion to get over this problem. Open an account with either the Halifax or National Provincial, who pay 4.25 per cent gross on £1 instant access, then transfer at leisure to either a National Savings investment account paying 6.25 per cent gross with one month's notice and minimum £20, or better still, a children's bond paying 7.85 per cent gross minimum £25, but it must be held for five years to get the full benefits.

I feel it is very important for children to be taught how to save, so perhaps the people giving the gifts could explain why they are using these accounts; i.e. when best interest is compounded it gives best return.

P. S. BROWN,
149 Tuckers Road,
Loughborough,
Leicestershire.

Don't cave in when post codes are used to determine building insurance rates

From Mr Henry Bear

Sir, To your comment on building insurance by post code (Sara McConnell report, April 10), may I add my own experience.

My insurers, United Friendly, were quite happy in 1990 with £1.60 per £1000, increasing then to £1.90 and on to £2.20 per £1,000 in 1992. Last month my premium was raised by a further 60 per cent to £3.50 per thousand, not because I have a claims record, but because, it seems from the covering letter, TN 31 is "a known subsidence area". This, despite the fact that like most country postcodes it covers some 25-30 square miles.

My cottage, like most of the village, has stood for 250-300 years and I see little danger of subsidence. I therefore asked that subsidence, and, if necessary flooding, be excessed out of my policy, but neither the United Friendly nor the AA Insurance phone-in service (whose computer, reputedly, holds offers from four to five major insurers) would consider this.

What the customer wants no longer fits in with computerised systems, or so it appears. As no one has offered to explain how the Post Office's coding system, designed to facilitate the sorting and delivering of mail, is able to assess the vulnerability of my property to fire, subsidence and flooding, I remain uninsured.

Little wonder the insurance industry is in trouble.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY BEAR,
Clare Cottage,
Brede, East Sussex.

Letters to the Business and Finance section of *The Times* can be sent by fax on 071-782 5112.

GREENINGS

☐ Clerical Medical's new balanced investment plan provides a fixed monthly income of 9 per cent over five years, after which it aims, but does not guarantee, to return the total initial investment. Of a £10,400 total investment, £4,085 buys a temporary annuity, and the balance is invested in Clerical Medical's equity high income trust through a Pep. If the investor dies during the five years, the company promises to return at least the original value of the Pep.

☐ Shares in Ivory & Sime ISIS, a new investment trust that concentrates on capital growth, are available from Warburgs, the stockbroker, at 100p each. The offer closes on June 4. A monthly income plan and monthly savings plan, including Pep option, are also available. Offer commission of 1.5 per cent is payable on the MIP and the shares. The MSP attracts commission of 1.5 per cent, based on annualised monthly contributions.

☐ Premium Life has cut premiums on its critical illness plan by 10 per cent on sums assured of more than £150,000. There is a 1 per cent bonus unit allocation for premiums over £50 a month, and 2 per cent on monthly premiums above £100. The premium for a male smoker aged 44, insured for £50,000, has been reduced from £52.31 to £51.81. For a 35-year-old female non-smoker, insured for a sum of £150,001, it has been cut from £45.35 to £41.42.

☐ Swiss Life has launched a level-term life assurance policy. It may be linked to, among other things, personal pensions or free-standing additional voluntary contributions, where tax breaks may allow policyholders to save up to 40 per cent on term assurance premiums. The policy is open to people between 18 and 68 for terms of between two and 50 years, with cover ceasing at maximum age 70.

☐ Clinicare, the UK medical insurer, and Strasbourgeoise Assurance, the French insurer, are offering three new healthcare plans. The first, Carte Blanche, covers childbirth, GP fees and alternative medicine as well as more conventional medical insurance areas. The annual premium for a married couple with two or more children is £1,326.96. Classic, the second, offers traditional cover; Club, the cheapest, has certain exclusions, such as home nursing or maternity cash benefits. The Clinicare Helpline is on 0438 742828.

☐ The first in a new series of books about the financial aspects of various situations has been published by National & Provincial Building Society. *Women Going Back to Work* covers childcare facilities, preparing CVs and office politics, as well as providing self-assessment questionnaires. Topics for later publications will include parents and teenagers, elderly parents and preparing for childbirth. The first book costs £7.99 through N&P branches or (after May) from bookshops.

☐ Motorists who take part in car boot sales may risk invalidating their insurance cover, warns AA Insurance. People selling regularly at such sales are effectively working part-time, or even full-time, as market traders. Motor insurers may want to take this into account when rating the element of risk, so insurance cover may be invalid if they are not told, the AA says.

INTEREST RATES ROUNDUP

	Nominal rate	Compounded at tax rates 25%	40%	Min/max Investment £	Notice	Contact
BANKS						
Ordinary Dep A/c:						
Typical	0.38	0.38	0.30	1,000	7 day	——
Fixed Term Deposits:						
Barclays	3.19	3.19	2.55	25,000-50,000	1 mth	071-626 1567
"	3.47	3.47	2.78	25,000-50,000	3 mth	071-626 1567
Lloyds	3.19	3.19	2.55	10,000-no max	1 mth	Local Bnch
"	3.56	3.56	2.85	10,000-no max	6 mth	Local Bnch
Midland	3.80	3.80	3.04	10,000-100,000	1 mth	0742 528655
" " "	3.89	3.89	3.11	10,000-100,000	3 mth	0742 528655
NatWest	3.47	3.47	2.78	25,000-50,000	1 mth	071-726 1000
" " "	3.47	3.47	2.78	25,000-50,000	3 mth	071-726 1000
HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNTS						
Bank of Scotland MMC	3.48	3.54	2.83	2,500‡	none	031-442 7777
Barclays Prime a/c	1.88	1.88	1.50	2,500‡	none	0604 252891
Co-operative Ultra	0.38	0.38	0.30	500‡	none	071 626 8543
Citibank	3.75	3.82	3.06	2,000‡	none	0800 555884
Lloyds HICA	0.38	0.38	0.30	10,000	none	0272 433372
Midland HICA	1.50	1.50	1.20	2,000‡	none	0742 528655
NatWest Special Reserve	1.13	1.13	0.90	500‡	none	0800 200 400
Royal Bank of Scot Prem A/c	1.50	1.51	1.21	2,000‡	none	031-556 8555
TSB Bank HICA	1.88	1.88	1.50	2,000‡	none	071-600 6000
BUILDING SOCIETIES						
Ordinary Share A/c	0.75	0.75	0.60	50+	none	——
Best buy — largest socs:						
Britannia	5.29	5.29	4.23	10,000 min	Postal	——
Britannia	5.44	5.44	4.35	25,000 min	Postal	——
Northern Rock	6.04	6.04	4.83	50,000 min	30 day	——
Alliance & Lcstr	5.78	5.78	4.62	100,000 min	90 day	——
Bradford & Bingly	6.23	6.23	4.98	100,000 min	1 year	——
Best buy — all socs:						
North of England	5.63	5.63	4.50	25,000 min	Postal	——
Northern Rock	5.85	5.85	4.68	25,000 min	30 day	——
Marsden	6.00	6.00	4.80	50,000 min	60 day	——
Scarborough	5.93	5.93	4.74	50,000 min	90 day	——
Bradford & Bingly	6.23	6.23	4.98	100,000 min	1 year	——
Compiled by Chase de Vere Moneyline - call 071 404 5788 for further details						
NATIONAL SAVINGS						
Ordinary A/c†	3.75	2.81	2.25	500-10,000	8 day	041-649-4555
Investment A/c*	6.25	4.69	3.75	20-25,000	1 mth	041-649-4555
Income Bond*	7.00	5.25	4.20	2,000-250,000	3 mth	0253 66151
6th Index Linkd*	3.25	3.25	3.25	100-10,000	8 day	091-386 4900
40th Issue Cert*	5.75	5.75	5.75	100-10,000	8 day	091-386 4900
Yearly Plan†	5.75	5.75	5.75	20-400/mth	14 day	091-386 4900
Children's Bond	7.85	7.85	7.85	25-1,000		
Gen Ext Rate†	3.75	3.75	3.75			
Capital Bond*	7.75	5.81	4.65	100-250,000	8 days	041-649-4555
1st Option Bond	4.75	4.75	3.80	250,000		
GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS						
General Portfolio	5.10	5.10	4.34	20,000 min	1 yrs	Figures from
Financial Ass	5.75	5.75	4.88	50,000 min	2 yrs	Chase de
Financial Ass	6.50	6.50	5.53	50,000 min	3 yrs	Vere
Financial Ass	6.70	6.70	5.70	50,000 min	4 yrs	071 404 5788
Financial Ass	7.05	7.05	6.00	50,000 min	5 yrs	for details

RATES		HOLIDAY RATES	£ buys
RPI (March 92-93)	+1.9%	Spanish Pesetas:	180.50
Bank Base Rate	6%	French Francs:	8.04
Personal Loan	26%	Greek Drachma:	323.00
Credit Card	25 - 27%	Italian Lire:	2231.00

TESSA	CAR (%)	£3,000 val 1 year on	Transfer penalty	Minimum investmt	Telephone number
Dunfermline	8.00	£3,240.00	1mths notice+loss	£3,000	0383 721821
St Pancras	8.00	£3,240.00	£25+30days notice	£10	071 7942331
Nat Counties	7.90	£3,237.00	90 Days loss	£3,000	0272 742211
West Bromwich	7.80	£3,220.00	£25+1mths notice	£150	021 5257070
Stroud & Swndn	7.75	£3,232.00	-	£100	0272 273308

† 2.5% for balances below £500, first £70 of interest tax free, instant access for withdrawals of £100 or less ‡ Additional holdings up to £20,000 for investors re-investing proceeds of existing matured certificates ††Tax free *Interest taxable paid gross #Higher rates for larger sums ◊ Guaranteed over the rate of inflation

Compiled by KAREN BUCKLEY

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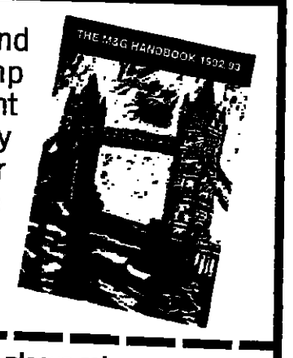
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Rally at close

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began May 10. Dealings end May 21. §Contango day May 24. Settlement day June 1. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

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No	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Highland Distl	Breweries	
2	First Nat Fin	Banks,Disc	
3	Life Sciences	Electrical	
4	Property Trust	Property	
5	Ulster TV	Leisure	
6	Telegraph	Newspapr,Pub	
7	Deelkraal	Mining	
8	Bourne End	Property	
9	Johnson Matth	Industrial	
10	HSBC	Banks,Disc	
11	P & P	Electrical	
12	Inchcape	Business Serv	
13	Meyer Int	Building,Rds	
14	Havelock Euro	Industrial	
15	Slough Estates	Property	
16	ERF	Motors,Air	
17	Nat West	Banks,Disc	
18	Courtauld Text	Textiles	
19	Photo-Me	Industrial	
20	E Rand Gold	Mining	
21	Sidlaw	Industrial	
22	Great Nthrn	Industrial	
23	Glaxo	Industrial	
24	Harrison Crsfld	Industrial	
25	MMT Comp	Electrical	
26	Bowthorpe	Electrical	
27	Kloof	Mining	
28	Fairey Group	Industrial	
29	Dart	Business Serv	
30	Lovaine	Mining	
31	Blue Circle	Building,Rds	
32	Yorkshire TV	Leisure	
33	Scot TV	Leisure	
34	Bostrom	Motors,Air	
35	Portals	Industrial	
36	Wetherspoon JD	Breweries	
37	Brooks Service	Business Serv	
38	Volex	Electrical	
39	Next	Drapery,Stors	
40	Scapa	Industrial	

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Please take into account any minus signs

£1,000 MATCH THE SHARES

If you have ticked off your eighth share in our Match The Shares game today, claim your prize by telephoning 0254 53272 between 10.00am and 3.30pm (see the Sunday Times for full details)

Two winners share yesterday's Portfolio Plus prize of £4,000. They are Mr R Carr of Woking, Surrey and Miss V Slater of Freshbrook, Swindon.

BUSINESS SERVICES

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
675	460	ADT	575	...	...	...	∞
739	613	Amec Ord	668	...	12.5	2.3	24.8
7	3¼	Anglo Ord	3½	...	...	0.8	...
£101½	8325	BASF DM	9062½	-465	...	7.7	...
285	221	BTP	285	...	...	...	∞
£119	£102½	Bayer DM50	£105½	-75	...	5.4	...
778	634	Bidvest	778	...	9.5	1.2	16.2
165	130	Brent Chemn	130	-7½	7.4	7.1	∞
530	415	Br Bio-Tech	415	-10	...	...	...
29	18	Cadrd Grp	25	+1	1.3	6.6	∞
153	126	Canning (W)	138	+5	7.2	6.6	15.8
608	535	Courtaulds	598	+3	13.9	3.0	14.9
281	228	Cowie	273	-2	7.75p	3.5	∞
146	121	Dowdns	137	...	4.6	4.2	10.5
202	175	Ellis & Everard	197	+1	7.0	4.5	18.0
28	15½	Euro Colour	24½	...	0.6	3.5	...
281	259	Halstead (J)	285	...	...	2.6	14.3
237	194	Hickson	236	...	8.0	4.2	∞
£114½	8850	Hoechst	9012½	-125	...	5.0	9.7
216	195	Holliday Chem	215	...	9.4	4.4	19.8
1309	1048	ICI	1265	-36	55.0	5.4	31.4
688	581	Laporte	625	-3	39.5	3.9	∞
223	181	Leigh	184	...	7.8	5.3	15.0
199	8	MTM	8½	...	...	...	...
1712½	1462½	Norsk Hydro	1687½	...	...	1.7	∞
420	370	Paterson Zoch	416	...	11.4	7.4	18.2
375	360	-do- 'A'	370	...	11.4	3.9	18.0
286	254	Pipex	286	...	6.0	2.8	18.0
210	178	Perrott	210	...	3.6	2.1	22.5
13	7½	Satcliffe Speak	9	...	...	...	...
475	435	Wardle Storys	435	...	16.0	4.6	17.5
460	398	Wiggins Gp	430	...	17.0	4.7	15.4
360	269	Yorks Chems	298	+7	...	2.4	21.3
306	240	Yule Cats	289	+1	5.9	2.6	∞

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

248	223	Allied Colloids	225	...	3.9	2.3	17.9
43	33	Amerchem	668	...	12.5	2.3	24.8
7	3¼	Anglo Ord	3½	...	...	0.8	...
£101½	8325	BASF DM	9062½	-465	...	7.7	...
285	221	BTP	285	...	...	...	∞
£119	£102½	Bayer DM50	£105½	-75	...	5.4	...
778	634	Bidvest	778	...	9.5	1.2	16.2
165	130	Brent Chemn	130	-7½	7.4	7.1	∞
530	415	Br Bio-Tech	415	-10	...	...	...
29	18	Cadrd Grp	25	+1	1.3	6.6	∞
153	126	Canning (W)	138	+5	7.2	6.6	15.8
608	535	Courtaulds	598	+3	13.9	3.0	14.9
281	228	Cowie	273	-2	7.75p	3.5	∞
146	121	Dowdns	137	...	4.6	4.2	10.5
202	175	Ellis & Everard	197	+1	7.0	4.5	18.0
28	15½	Euro Colour	24½	...	0.6	3.5	...
281	259	Halstead (J)	285	...	...	2.6	14.3
237	194	Hickson	236	...	8.0	4.2	∞
£114½	8850	Hoechst	9012½	-125	...	5.0	9.7
216	195	Holliday Chem	215	...	9.4	4.4	19.8
1309	1048	ICI	1265	-36	55.0	5.4	31.4
688	581	Laporte	625	-3	39.5	3.9	∞
223	181	Leigh	184	...	7.8	5.3	15.0
199	8	MTM	8½	...	...	...	...
1712½	1462½	Norsk Hydro	1687½	...	...	1.7	∞
420	370	Paterson Zoch	416	...	11.4	7.4	18.2
375	360	-do- 'A'	370	...	11.4	3.9	18.0
286	254	Pipex	286	...	6.0	2.8	18.0
210	178	Perrott	210	...	3.6	2.1	22.5
13	7½	Satcliffe Speak	9	...	...	...	...
475	435	Wardle Storys	435	...	16.0	4.6	17.5
460	398	Wiggins Gp	430	...	17.0	4.7	15.4
360	269	Yorks Chems	298	+7	...	2.4	21.3
306	240	Yule Cats	289	+1	5.9	2.6	∞

DRAPERY, STORES

105	63	Alexon	95	...	3.0	4.4	...
87	48	Amber Day	85	...	3.1	2.7	20.6
319	257	Argos Plc	302½	...	...	2.9	20.8
110	69	Ashley (Laura)	110	+2	0.1	0.1	∞
305	278	Asprey▲	295	...	...	...	23.1
249	188	Austin Reed	233 †	...	8.0	2.7	∞
153	125	Bearnie (J) 'A'	140 †	...	6.0	3.4	∞
153	97	Bennalls	109 †	...	1.9	2.2	...
276	208	Benetower	266	...	...	0.8	30.6
34	22	Blacks Leis	28	-2	3.3	...	6.0
227	153	Body Shop	198	-4	1.7	1.1	∞
16	12	Brown & Jackson	15½	...	...	0.8	∞
401	318	Brown (N)	350	+2	7.0	2.5	∞
87½	64½	Burton	86½	+2	...	2.9	...
145	126	Cammell	140	...	...	2.3	19.0
355	298	Church	335	...	12.5	4.4	21.5
107	97	Clinton Cards	106	...	4.2	3.6	17.6
247	212	Coats Viyella	233	+1	...	3.9	25.6
186	78	Colourvision ▲	91	...	...	...	15.4
502	374	Courts Furnish	501	...	5.0	1.2	25.1
185	115	Crown Eyes	185	...	...	5.5	8.4
99	69	Daily Farm Inn	105	+1	...	3.3	∞
65	51½	Dawsits (U)	64½	+1	1.0	1.5	20.7
281	194½	Dixons Grp	274	-4	6.0	3.5	25.2
405	300	Dunhill	400	+7	7.7	2.4	13.9
21	12½	ERA Gp	19	...	...	...	0.4
530	400	Elys (Wimbldn)	485	...	10.0	4.3	16.2
115	77	Essex Furn	107	...	...	3.4	17.1
239	203	Etam	239	+1	8.9	3.7	21.4
582	499	Fitz Air Dev	549	+2	12.5	3.0	∞
20	16	First Earth Tiles	20	...	...	...	...
468	368	Forminster	458	...	13.5	3.1	10.4
51	24	French Conn▲	51	+1	...	...	...
71	21	Gabbitas▲	44	+2	2.0	4.5	...
63	41	Genj Fit	63	...	0.3	0.5	∞
47	23	Goldsmiths Gp	45	...	0.3	0.8	∞
2613	2400	GUS	2913	...	40.0	1.7	22.2
1728	1563	-do- 'A'	1625	-8	40.0	3.1	12.9
98	74	Hampden Grps▲	98	...	...	4.6	16.9
277	90	Harmony▲	90	+1	...	7.6	4.9
252	20	Hickme Pic	22	+1	2.0	11.4	∞
29	23	Heringe▲	25	...	...	...	0.0
65	35	Honeysuckles	61	...	...	3.3	8.5
1040	878	How ard Tenens	1027	...	19.3	4.7	∞
411	358	Hse of Fraser	402	...	16.6	4.6	8.9
573	470	H Data Pic	551	...	23.3	3.6	24.7
96	43	Electron House	81	...	0.1	0.1	∞
304	10½	Emess	29½	...	8.0	1.7	26.4
587	442	Earnshorn	574	...	2.3	2.1	25.9
136	108	FKI	128 †	+1	6.2	2.1	∞
391	349	Farnell Elect	50	...	...	...	...
51	33	Feedback▲	50	...	...	...	...
18	9	Ferranti	17	...	...	...	...
195	101	First Tech	193	...	...	2.0	16.2
256	81	Forward Tech	233	...	...	2.0	∞
21	16½	Forward Tech	17	...	0.3	2.0	∞
394	316	GEC	316	+3	9.6	3.8	16.7
182	132	Gracelcy	150	...	10.9	8.7	∞
39	30	Hilclare▲	39	...	...	1.6	12.7
150	83	INSTEM▲	140 †	...	...	2.8	10.1
388	320	Jones Stroud	373	...	8.0	2.7	16.2
10	8	Kembery	9	...	0.3	5.2	3.4

ELECTRICALS

182	147	ACT Group	158	+1	4.5	3.6	15.6
238	223	Accle▲	226	...	...	3.3	19.9
1425	38	Astro Compn▲	86	+1	...	...	43.6
480	385	Admiral	434	...	5.4	1.6	18.4
137	104	Alba	129	...	4.7	4.6	16.9
19½	19½	Alphameric	38	...	...	...	...
23	22	Amprobe	23	...	0.4	...	...
78	73	AMP Holme	78	...	...	...	...
23	13	Aflen	21	+3	...	...	...
35	35½	Astec	56½	...	...	...	∞
250	250	Beales Hunter	275	...	9.2	4.2	14.5
3	3½	Bennett & Fount	5½	...	...	...	...
319	319	BICC	468	-6	19.2	6.5	34.0
575	455	BTR	484	...	9.2	2.4	18.8
1683	1350	Bardgate	1650	-13	...	...	...
310	224	Bowthorpe	312	+3	8.3	2.5	∞
345	376	BT	414½	+10½	...	4.8	20.5
9	5½	Bulgin (A F) 'A'	8	+½	0.1	1.6	...
110	110	Burnfield	137	-4	5.7	5.2	21.7
660	600	Cable Wireless	716	-2	13.2	2.3	22.1
14½	14½	Charlie	14½	...	...	...	...
229	229	CML Micro▲	257	...	...	2.9	19.5
115	74	Compar Peripl	115	...	0.6	0.5	...
153	108½	Cray Elect	150	+1½	...	0.4	12.3
306	243	Crilley	305	...	5.1	6.1	10.2
116	86	Dale	116	+2	14.0	12.1	...
548	414	Delta	548	...	...	3.7	12.1
248	203	Desmonds Elc	248	+2	7.2	3.7	17.8
620	460	Domino	523	...	2.5	3.5	18.7
65	48	Dowding Mills	65	...	...	1.1	25.3
1040	865	Druck▲	1038	...	7.0	2.3	20.9
411	358	Electrocomponents	386	-3	9.1	2.4	18.7
573	470	El Data Pic	551	...	23.3	3.6	24.7
96	43	Electron House	81	...	0.1	0.1	∞
304	10½	Emess	29½	...	8.0	1.7	26.4
587	442	Earnshorn	574	...	2.3	2.1	25.9
136	108	FKI	128 †	+1	6.2	2.1	∞
391	349	Farnell Elect	50	...	...	...	...
51	33	Feedback▲	50	...	...	...	...
18	9	Ferranti	17	...	...	...	...
195	101	First Tech	193	...	...	2.0	16.2
256	81	Forward Tech	233	...	...	2.0	∞
21	16½	Forward Tech	17	...	0.3	2.0	∞
394	316	GEC	316	+3	9.6	3.8	16.7
182	132	Gracelcy	150	...	10.9	8.7	∞
39	30	Hilclare▲	39	...	...	1.6	12.7
150	83	INSTEM▲	140 †	...	...	2.8	10.1
388	320	Jones Stroud	373	...	8.0	2.7	16.2
10	8	Kembery	9	...	0.3	5.2	3.4

FINANCE, LAND

60½	51	Aitken Hume	51	...	0.5	...	32.6
77	47	BWD▲	77	+2	...	5.2	12.0
60	26	Bshir Pic	54	...	1.0	1.5	∞
463	429	Caledonia	458	...	14.4	4.2	16.4
1500	1075	Camellia	1400	...	27.0	2.4	11.8
258	243	Cindower	250	...	10.2	5.1	17.7
96	71	Fleetech▲	95	...	...	...	9.4
309	158	Glovcr	286	...	...	5.3	8.9
148	126	Ivory Sime	147	...	...	5.4	15.4
6¾	3	JT	3¾	...	...	...	...
12	11	Lighterslip	12 ‡	...	...	...	0.6
203	154	Lon Forfaiting▲	201	...	8.4	5.4	14.2
57	47	Manakin	57	...	...	...	...
12½	3½	Nor Home Loan	11½	...	...	...	...
69	40	Newmarket	69	+1	...	...	...
272	246	Rathbone Bro	272	...	6.0	2.8	16.5
22	17	Rusland Tst	21	...	0.8	4.8	∞
330	255	S & U	276	...	10.0	4.7	∞
89	68	Singer & Friel	68	...	2.6	4.8	∞
928	738	Sotheby's	850	+75	...	4.4	...
108	83	SIF Capital	106	...	3.0	3.3	19.2

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1950	1487½	Amer Express	1800 †	-34½	...	...	...
234	183	Electra	219	...	6.7	3.8	35.9
978	835	Henderson Ad	960	+2	41.0	5.6	20.0
121	92	Investec MDH	109½	-1½	3.0	3.6	∞
218	164	Jardine Strat	202½	+15	...	2.6	20.0
194	154	MAI	179	+1	6.8	4.2	13.8
484	399	MAM	482	...	11.5	3.0	10.5
1975	1535	M & G	1895	...	47.2	2.5	20.9
225	195	Smith New Ct	220	...	4.5	2.5	8.7
80	55	Trio Hldgs	78	...	...	4.8	...

FOODS

516	461	AB Food	480	+2	14.0	3.7	10.8
77½	53	ASDA Group	68	-½	...	3.7	21.0
225	170	Acatos & Hitch	225	...	8.5	3.5	13.0
79	55	Albert Fisher	79	...	3.7	7.0	11.2
407	310	Argyll	313	-1	8.7	3.9	12.3
26	12	Ashley Group	18	...	...	3.9	...
147	127	Assc Fisheries	132	...	8.0	7.5	∞
210	160	Banks (S C)	210	...	8.2	6.9	10.5
402	310	Barr (AG)	375	...	6.5	2.2	16.9
85	57	Bengers Crop▲	85	...	...	5.7	13.9
136½	112½	Berisford Int	136	...	...	...	...
455	363	Booker	369	-2	...	7.4	13.0
50	35	Bordswick	48½	...	1.1	2.8	33.8
488	430	Brake Bros	484	...	6.2	1.6	20.1
58	39	Budgens	47	...	...	2.1	∞
511	442	Cadbury-Schw	456	+1	...	3.6	16.9
89	78	Cans Milling	84	...	3.9	5.8	16.8
201	178	Cranswick▲	190	...	...	4.9	14.0
8	6½	Colleens	7	+½	0.5	3.7	9.1
384	168	Dalepak	193	...	6.0	3.0	8.7
491	431	Dalgety	433	-1	19.5	5.9	12.6
54	27	Daniels S	54	+3	0.2	0.5	...
134	122	Everest	129	...	...	3.4	17.8
298	269	Ferguslie	298	...	...	2.2	20.6
10	3	Farringford	7½	...	...	...	...
94	78	Finlay (James)	83	...	4.1	6.4	∞
125	78	Fyffes	110	...	...	1.4	18.3
493	328	Geest	410 †	-12	8.7	2.5	∞
12	7	Global▲	12	+½	...	5.3	18.7
203	147	Hazlewood Fds	191	-½	6.1	4.0	11.6
171	131	Hillsdown	154	...	...	7.1	12.1
730	646	Iceland Frozen	691	+3	9.0	1.4	16.5
911	731	ILI Group	715	+5	4.5	4.9	18.6
853	731	Dwlk Save	778 †	+3	16.0	2.6	14.9
262	202	Low (Wm)	204 †	...	8.4	5.1	9.9
58	41	Matthews Jn	58	...	2.2	5.1	26.0
16	12½	Merchant Retail	14	...	1.1	9.3	12.5
174	149	Morrison (W)	155	-1	...	0.6	20.1
538	443	Nichols (JW)	513	+5	13.6	3.3	14.8
298	243	Nthn Foods	260	...	...	3.8	14.3
23	15	Nthmbrian Fds	18	...	...	...	10.0
220	172	Nuttall (E)	208	-3	5.8	3.8	14.7
241	205	Park Foods	235	...	5.2	1.7	28.1
115	83	Perkins Food	115	...	4.4	4.8	∞
96½	47	Pressbrprsce	76	...	...	0.8	43.7
7½	3½	Virginia Hldgs▲	3½	...	...	...	...
584	440	Salisbury J	453	-1	10.0	2.8	∞
68	33	Savory Farms▲	56	...	...	2.2	13.1
236	170	Sims Food	172	...	11.2	8.2	9.3
439	380	Tate & Lyle	382 †	...	12.8	3.4	13.0
273	210	Tesco	215½	+1	7.1	4.1	∞
211	167	Thorntons	171	...	3.6	2.7	15.9
183	161	Tiretex▲	175	...	...	2.6	20.0
375	300	Unigate	324	...	15.3	5.4	12.2
437	340½	Utd Biscuits	414	-1	...	5.6	13.9
35	21	Usborne	21 †	...	0.4	2.4	12.9
357	248	Watson & Phil	308	+2	13.3	5.4	16.1

HOTELS, CATERERS

16	16	Abrdn Stk Ha▲	16	...	...	2.4	∞
89	77	City Centre Rest	89	...	1.5	1.7	∞
209	170	Forte	191	+2	7.5	4.9	∞
199	155	Friendly Hotels	188	...	5.7	4.3	∞
10½	6½	Harmony Leisr	10	...	...	...	...
110	87	Jurys Hotel	104	-4	...	5.9	12.2
215	154	Ladbroke	169	+6	...	3.7	10.5
73	59	Mandarin Orntl	72	+1	...	4.4	∞
49	40	Newmarket	49	...	...	2.8	7.6
93	63	Rank Hovis Mc	89	-1	1.6	1.8	12.7
83	60	Rank Org 'A'	83	...	2.0	2.4	∞
4	2½	Regal Hostels▲	4	...	...	...	...
58	28	Resort Hotels	44	...	3.4	9.8	8.6
795	700	Savoy Hotel 'A'	755	...	7.0	1.2	...
54	34½	Stakis	50	...	...	1.1	...

INDUSTRIALS

218	178	AAF Ints	198	...	...	5.6	12.1
418	418	AAH	418	+3	16.3	4.1	15.8
140	140	ABF	140	-5	6.5	5.8	8.7
132	90	APV	99	-5	5.4	6.8	∞
233	91	ASW	220	-7	6.0	3.3	∞
157	124	Ashtead	157	...	7.0	5.6	22.3
41½	30	Aerospace Eng	41	...	1.0	...	12.2
484	434	Alrsprung	484	...	7.5	1.9	13.4
141	113	p Alexdrs W	140 †	...	3.8	3.4	∞
13½	7	Allied Radio	7½	...	...	...	...
535	415	Alumasc	535	...	11.0	2.6	16.4
35	17	Alvis	33	...	1.0	3.8	6.8
420	345	Amber Ind	365	...	17.0	5.4	9.8
38	18	Amberley Cps▲	31	...	...	4.0	...
148	125	Andrew Sykes	135	...	4.4	4.1	77.1
993	703	Antofagasta	800 †	-20	...	2.5	∞
50½	37	Armour	43½	...	1.4	4.3	12.6
170	143	Ash & Lacy	159	...	6.4	5.0	16.3
7½	3	Ash Br Ekg	3½	...	0.0	2.5	...
555	445	Assn Rubber	498	-6	...	4.2	14.2
235	168	Assoc Nwspps▲	216	...	...	...	8.3
665½	544½	Atlas Equip	657 †	...	...	4.2	16.5
48	35	Ayrshire Metal	40	...	...	...	...
172	147	BBA	157	...	...	6.0	∞
55	28	BLP Groups▲	55	...	...	...	...
77	53	BM Gp	76½	...	5.0	...	3.0
770	671	BOC	699	+17	23.2	4.2	15.2
79½	62	BSG	67½	+1	...	5.9	∞
480	353	BSS Group	480	...	...	4.5	19.2
621	530	BTR	586½	+2½	...	3.8	19.3
221	188	BW	195	...	8.2	4.3	18.8
41½	31	Babcock	35½	...	2.1	...	7.4
7½	4½	Bailey (C H)	6½	...	...	...	...
289	241	Baird (Wm)	259	...	8.9	4.3	18.0
106½	56½	Barlow Rand	60½	...	...	3.7	3.4
7	4	Barnes (G) ‡	4	...	2.0	...	18.2
60	48	Barrus (Charles)	61	...	1.4	2.9	∞
15	5	Beaufort	7	...	...	1.8	...
6½	6½	Beckenham▲	6	...	...	...	...
34	15	Bedford (W)▲	20	...	...	...	...
27½	15½	Bergen Group	15	-5	0.1	0.8	14.3
797	557	Bespak	557	-6	9.0	2.1	16.7
133	93	Bibby (J)	93	-20	8.7	...	5.1
300	128	Bilton (J)	224	...	5.0	2.8	∞
33½	21½	Bilton Service▲	32	...	...	...	...
11½	6½	Binns Ind	8½	...	0.6	...	...

INSURANCE

1980½	1543½	Alex & Alex	1862½	...	...	3.8	...
2275	1787½	Am Gen	1937½	-37½	...	3.6	...
45	30	Archer (AJ)	35	+1	4.4	15.7	17.0
148	123	Bridgewell	125	...	11.5	9.1	15.4
1475	1078	Britannic	1445	...	33.5	2.9	...
641	561	Com Union	586	-2	...	5.2	...
1450	1225	Dom & Gen	1450	...	...	1.6	24.0

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1708	1548	Alliance	1633	-5	45.0	3.4	∞
2265	2265	Amer Trust	2360	-1	4.9	2.6	49.0
346	304	Ang & O'seas	344	-1	6.8	2.5	43.7
136½	124	B2W Conv	136	...	2.4	1.9	51.9
158	133	Bankers	158	...	6.4	2.9	43.5
284	234	Barings Tribne	275	+1	6.2	2.2	∞
158	131	Berry Sharp	158	+1	2.2	1.7	∞
10½	9½	Br Assets	9½	...	...	5.5	24.0
67	57½	Br Empire Sec	66½	...	0.8	1.7	67.5
208	170	Brunner	203	...	4.8	2.3	∞
208	170	Bunzl Pan	203	...	14.0	6.8	∞
148	123	Caledonian	148	...	11.0	7.6	52.0
19	15	Locker (T) A	18	-1	0.8	4.4	12.6
274	185	Lon Inv	185	-1	9.4	4.3	...
120½	70

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
80 Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 0345 717373				
Mastertrust	115.60	123.80	+2.70	1.01
International	87.68	93.27	+2.53	.96
Dividend Gth	56.87	60.50	+0.84	4.64
Global Gth Sec	61.53	65.45	+0.10	2.64
Ethical Growth	65.08	69.23	+0.90	2.53
High Inc Equity	148.90	158.40†	+1.50	5.03
Worldwide Bond	261.80	277.60†	+5.20	4.36
Gilts Fixed Int	128.70	136.40	+0.20	6.00
ABTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
10 Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ 0224 633070 Dealing: 0800 833580 30 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7QQ 071 374 4881				
Amer Inc Gth	42.26	44.60†	+1.05	0.70
European	79.25	83.98	+1.43	...
European Inc	75.93	80.60	+1.05	1.86
Exempt	884.70	913.50†	+14.90	3.36
Extra Inc	43.21	46.03	+0.64	5.47
F East Emerg Ec	82.90	89.38	+3.66	0.73
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS				
Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon, SN1 1EL 0793 514514 Dealing: 0793 618366				
High Inc	375.60	401.50	+7.70	4.10
Equity Inc	211.70	226.30	+4.20	4.03
High Yield	230.40	246.20†	+4.00	4.16
Balanced	637.50	681.40	+9.70	2.59
American Inc	46.03	49.20	+0.93	3.46
Wld Asset Val	39.16	41.86	+0.80	1.96
Japan	196.90	209.70	+6.20	0.01
Secs of Am	388.60	413.60	+7.60	0.44
AXA EQUITY & LAW				
St George's Hse, Corporation St, Coventry CV1 1QD 0203 553231				
UK Growth Acc	309.10	328.90†	+4.80	2.71
-do- Inc	218.50	232.90†	+3.40	2.71
Higher Inc Acc	563.60	599.60†	+8.70	3.71
-do- Inc	342.10	364.00†	+5.20	3.71
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	173.50	183.20	+0.60	6.21
-do- Inc	93.93	98.04	+0.35	6.21
Nth America	245.50	261.20†	+3.70	...
Far East	290.00	308.60†	+5.60	0.19
Europe	218.50	232.50	+2.20	0.99
General Inc	419.20	446.00	+6.90	2.32
-do- Acc	459.90	489.30	+7.60	2.34
Brit Excell	62.45	66.25†	-0.44	2.70
Brit Fndmtls Inc	66.92	71.20	-0.88	4.89
Brit Fndmtls Acc	86.27	91.78	+1.14	4.89
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
Gredley Hse, 1-11 Broadway, London E15 081 534 5544				
Capital	104.40	111.70	+2.10	2.80
Euro Gth Inc	113.30	120.20	+2.30	1.04
Extra Inc	103.60	110.80†	+2.10	4.91
General	236.90	253.40†	+4.50	3.00
Gilt Fxd Inc	57.54	59.49	+0.11	8.48
Income	479.80	513.20	+8.80	4.52
BARING FUND MANAGERS				
PO Box 156, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ 081 658 9002				
American Gth	88.02	93.41	+2.48	0.10
Amer Smllr Cos	116.80	125.00	+3.70	...
Convertibles	53.05	56.73	-0.95	6.90
Eastern	181.70	195.80	+9.40	1.60
Equity Income	81.07	86.24†	+1.39	6.20
European Gth	222.70	236.90†	+1.50	1.50
Euro Smllr Cos	150.40	160.90	+2.80	1.90
Exempt	81.95	84.13	+1.33	3.60
German Growth	55.76	59.35	+0.69	0.70
Global Growth	106.20	113.20	+2.20	...
Japan Growth	195.40	209.20	+3.10	...
Japan Sunrise	169.40	181.10	+2.90	...
Portfolio	116.90	125.20	+2.90	3.20
-do- Acc	208.30	223.20	+5.20	3.20
UK Growth	78.80	83.82	+0.41	2.90
UK Smaller Cos	82.27	87.98†	+1.99	1.90
Select Managers	62.45	66.88†	+1.12	2.00
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
190 West George St, Glasgow G2 2PA 041 332 3132				
Balan Gth Acc	103.31	110.49	+1.74	1.87
-do- Inc	93.92	100.45†	+1.59	1.87
Global Bond	28.40	30.13†	-0.36	4.89
High Yield Acc	52.72	56.38	+0.67	4.06
-do- Inc	38.27	40.93†	+0.49	4.06
Smlr Cos Acc	89.97	96.23	+1.35	1.35
-do- Inc	82.70	88.45†	+1.22	1.35
Amer Gth Acc	57.17	61.15	+1.26	...
-do- Inc	56.11	60.01	+1.24	...
Euro Gth Acc	99.58	106.50	+2.16	1.07
-do- Inc	98.21	105.04	+2.14	1.07
Mngd P folio	34.42	36.82	+0.58	1.31
Pacific Growth	99.86	106.80	+4.45	0.58
Intl Spec Opps	86.42	92.43	+1.84	0.67
BROWN SHIPLEY				
9/17 Perrymount Rd, Haywards Heath 0444 458144				
Financial	121.30	129.20	+2.10	3.24
Smaller Cos Acc	286.10	306.10	+6.20	...
Smaller Cos Inc	166.30	178.00†	+3.60	1.22
High Inc	70.21	75.47	+0.49	6.94
Income	126.50	135.40†	+2.70	4.06
Mngd P folio Inc	91.40	97.34	-0.44	2.04
-do- Acc	172.70	184.00	-0.80	...
North American	102.10	108.70	+3.50	0.20
BUCKMASTER MANAGEMENT				
Beaufort House, 15 St Botolph Street, London EC3A 7JJ. 071 247 4542 Dealing: 071 247 7474				
Fellowship Tst	61.10	65.00†	+0.28	1.43
-do- Acc	68.88	73.28	+0.32	1.16
Income Fund 5	208.80	222.20	+2.40	4.15
-do- Acc	485.90	517.00†	+5.30	4.02
Inv Portfolio	66.02	68.42	+0.57	2.13
-do- Acc	74.55	77.26	+0.64	2.03
Smaller Cos	126.50	134.60	+1.30	1.50
-do- Acc	151.90	161.70	+1.60	...
High Inc P folio	59.41	61.57	+0.65	4.68
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
PO Box 105, Manchester M60 0AH 061 837 5060				
Environ	133.50	142.10	+1.30	1.64
UK Growth	144.80	154.10	+2.50	2.12
UK Income	121.60	129.40†	+1.80	4.18
CANNON FUND MANAGERS				
1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB 081 902 8876				
SE Asia	84.52	90.40†	+3.96	1.64
Growth	43.95	47.01	+0.69	2.91
Income	53.48	57.20	+0.77	4.25
Far East	48.01	51.35†	+0.79	0.15
North American	80.75	86.83†	+2.63	0.01
Global	82.27	88.10	+1.73	0.75
European	68.54	73.31	+0.15	1.21
Japan	111.40	119.10	+1.00	0.01
Intl Currency Bd	57.49	60.92†	+0.72	5.26
UK Cap Gwth	77.37	82.75†	+2.22	2.17
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
35 Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2AF Enquiries: 061 236 5685 Dealing: 061 236 5362				
Capability Trusts				
American Gen	125.20	133.20	+3.00	0.12
-do- Acc	133.10	141.60	+3.30	0.12
European	64.91	68.83	+1.00	0.90
-do- Acc	67.28	71.35	+1.04	0.90
Far East Gen	63.65	67.72	+0.96	...
-do- Acc	63.65	67.72	+0.96	...
Glenfriars	242.50	258.00	-0.70	0.74
-do- Acc	272.90	290.40	-0.80	0.74

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Growth	375.60	401.80	+6.50	2.31
-do- Acc	642.90	687.60	+10.90	2.31
Income Growth	371.40	398.20	+3.70	3.81
-do- Acc	493.90	525.50	+5.00	3.81
Master Portfolio	9343.0	9698.0†	+177.0	2.86
-do- Acc	10813.0	11198.0	+204.0	2.86
Special Sits	86.28	91.79	+1.31	2.25
-do- Acc	100.96	107.41	+1.53	2.25
Exempt Fund				
High Yield	1176.0	1213.0†	+11.00	4.39
-do- Acc	1388.0	1431.0	+13.00	4.39
CAPEL (JAMES) UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
7 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4HU 071 955 5858. Dealing: 071 955 5055				
American Index	185.20	197.30	+4.60	1.67
Capital	525.00	560.20†	+10.60	2.38
Eurotrack 100	127.10	135.20	+2.10	1.53
Euro Gth	78.93	84.06	+1.67	1.34
Far East Growth	89.96	96.00	+2.19	0.14
Global Bond	23.27	24.54	+0.38	6.10
Hong Kong	78.62	83.90	+4.79	0.82
Income	490.50	528.40†	+4.20	3.96
Intl Growth	73.03	77.94	+1.58	1.00
Japan Growth	268.60	286.60	-2.30	...
Japan Smllr Cos	33.98	36.26	+0.89	...
Japan Index	76.55	81.69	-0.72	0.24
Nth American	417.50	448.50†	+12.80	0.97
S pore Mly Gth	52.76	56.30†	+3.40	...
The Footsie Fd	106.70	112.60	+2.40	2.61
Tiger Index	137.30	146.50	+6.90	0.68
UK Index	122.10	130.30	+2.40	2.99
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
3 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7BH 071 606 0708				
American P folio	81.17	86.74	+1.38	1.00
European P folio	70.87	75.43†	+0.92	1.38
Japanese P folio	64.96	68.93	+2.05	...
Pacific P folio	98.24	105.64	+5.44	1.16
Cazenove P folio	69.95	74.82	+1.16	3.00
UK Income Gth	61.99	66.44†	+0.96	5.00
Utility & Bond	48.82	49.46	+0.06	7.00
CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND				
2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ 071 588 1815				
Investment Fd	595.05	600.00	...	4.82
Fixed Int	152.70	152.80	...	9.49
Deposit	5.55	...	...	...
CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND				
2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ 071 588 1815				
Income	585.59	585.74	...	5.10
-do- Acc	2295.4	2305.3	...	...
Deposit	5.50	...	...	...
Fxd Int Inc	124.15	124.16	...	9.34
-do- Acc	165.20	165.44	...	...
CITY FINANCIAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge, SE1 071 407 5966				
City Fin Assets	61.15	64.37†	-0.60	2.35
Beckman Intl	79.66	84.06†	+1.18	3.15
Friars Hse Inc	173.69	186.76†	-0.37	6.23
Friars Hse Cap	243.34	261.66	-2.16	2.79
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MANAGERS				
Exchange Court, 3 Bedford Park, Croydon CR0 2AQ. Enquiries: 081 681 2222 Dealing: 081 686 9818				
Japan Gth Acc	...	...	...	...
Smaller Cos	35.63	37.90	+1.07	1.81
-do- Acc	40.14	42.70	+1.21	1.81
UK General	67.93	72.27	+1.88	2.44
-do- Acc	81.44	86.64	+2.25	2.44
Wwide Bd	62.16	66.06	+0.99	6.11
-do- Acc	79.88	84.89	+1.27	6.11
Wwide Sp Sits	55.64	59.51	+0.61	0.17
-do- Acc	57.97	62.00	+0.64	0.17
Quilter General	118.42	125.98†	+1.51	2.48
-do- Acc	131.52	139.91	+1.68	2.48
Quilter Income	92.44	98.34†	+1.50	3.84
-do- Acc	113.94	121.21	+1.85	3.84
Quilter Intl	...	...	...	...
-do- Acc	...	...	...	...
Quilter UK Spec	...	...	...	...
-do- Acc	...	...	...	...
EAGLE STAR UNIT MANAGERS				
Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ 0242 577555				
Oriental Op Acc	81.13	86.31	+5.61	0.92
Japanese Acc	61.65	65.58	+1.15	...
UK Balncd Inc	125.80	133.80	+2.00	2.51
-do- Acc	146.80	156.20	+2.40	2.51
UK Growth Acc	205.60	218.70†	+2.40	2.21
UK High Inc	130.40	138.70†	+1.40	6.85
-do- Acc	157.80	167.90†	+1.40	6.85
N America Acc	108.50	115.40	+3.30	0.34
European Acc	152.00	161.70	+2.10	0.43
UK Pref F/I Inc	59.82	63.45	+0.15	8.91
-do- Acc	96.55	102.40	+0.20	8.91
EDINBURGH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
Donaldson House, 97 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HD. 031 313 1000				
American	108.00	114.80	+2.10	0.44
UK Smlr Cos	192.80	204.80†	+4.30	1.22
Eurofund	36.94	39.09	+0.39	1.02
Mngd Exempt	163.70	170.60	-0.10	3.08
Growth Inc	210.90	224.10	+4.30	3.79
High Dist	138.70	147.40†	+4.50	5.26
International	314.80	334.50	+4.40	0.97
Intl Income	79.42	84.78†	+2.02	3.07
Pacific	57.43	61.02	+2.28	0.49
Smllr Jap Cos	69.14	73.46	+2.53	...
Tokyo	200.50	213.00	+0.20	...
Japan Exempt	114.50	117.60	-0.40	0.43
Sm Jap Exempt	571.40	587.10	+19.80	0.00
Formerly Target				
American Eagle	118.30	125.70	+2.20	1.11
Australia	6.913	7.345	+0.21	1.08
Equity	184.20	195.70	+3.00	3.58
Euro Spec Sits	139.00	147.10†	+1.60	0.57
Financial	38.99	41.43	+0.95	2.91
Global Opps Inc	87.52	92.99	+1.46	2.17
-do- Acc	90.71	96.38	+1.51	2.17
Gold Gen Inc	47.60	50.58†	+4.03	0.86
-do- Acc	91.36	97.07†	+7.72	0.86
Income	120.30	127.80	+2.30	3.83
Japan General	155.40	165.00	...	...
Preference	21.37	22.71†	+0.15	8.01
UK Capital	101.70	108.10	+0.40	3.12
Worldwide Cap	194.10	206.20	+3.40	3.11
ENDURANCE FUND MANAGEMENT				
41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU 071 373 7281				
Endurance	173.90	184.90	+3.30	1.08
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP21 7QW 0296 431480				
Pelican	102.78	108.19†	+1.69	3.33
High Income	118.38	124.61†	+1.88	4.88
Tst of Inv Tsts	141.86	149.33	+1.59	2.14
Special Sits	82.94	87.31	+0.59	2.79
North American	101.74	107.09	+1.61	0.94
Far Eastern	241.09	253.78	+9.74	1.38
Intl Growth	93.78	98.72	+3.26	1.37
European	62.82	66.13	+0.80	2.21
Smaller Cos	69.55	73.21	+0.91	2.20
FAMILY INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LTD				
16 West Street, Brighton, BN1 2RE 0273 218 707				
United Charities	215.50	229.20†	-2.60	3.66

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD				
Oakhill House, 130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge TN11 9DZ. 0800 414161				
Cash Unit Tst	100.00	100.00	...	5.30
European Tst	117.00	124.50	+2.50	...
High Income	24.55	25.83†	+0.23	5.75
FOREIGN & COLONIAL				
8th Floor, Exchange Hse, Primrose St, London EC2A 2NY. 071 628 8000				
European	90.42	95.65	+1.34	0.87
Far Eastern	135.90	145.70	+3.60	...
Oseas Income	88.69	94.90	+3.46	2.40
UK Growth	92.06	98.46	+1.27	0.98
UK Income	97.99	104.80†	-1.00	3.49
US Smaller Cos	236.80	253.30	+6.00	...
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT				
155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3FT 071 374 4100				
Am Smllr Co	411.20	439.70	+7.30	...
-do- Acc	420.10	449.20	+7.50	...
Capital	285.60	303.70	+1.00	1.90
-do- Acc	397.70	423.00	+1.40	1.90
Contl Smllr Cos	47.82	51.41	+0.48	0.86
-do- Acc	49.46	53.19	+0.49	0.86
Convertible	113.80	121.00	+2.20	5.92
-do- Acc	210.60	224.00	+4.00	5.92
European	95.22	101.70	+1.30	0.96
-do- Acc	98.39	105.10	+1.30	0.96
Extra Income	290.20	308.60	+3.70	4.04
-do- Acc	406.30	432.10	+5.20	4.04
Financial	102.30	110.10†	+1.20	0.66
-do- Acc	107.10	115.30†	+1.20	0.66
Health Fund Inc	111.60	119.20	+3.50	...
-do- Acc	111.60	119.20	+3.50	...
Income Tst	177.90	189.20	+2.50	3.76
-do- Acc	248.00	263.80	+3.50	3.76
Intl Growth	306.70	327.50	+8.00	...
-do- Acc	340.60	363.70	+8.90	...
Japan Gen	177.60	189.90	+6.20	...
-do- Acc	179.40	191.80	+6.30	...
Mngd P folio Inc	89.20	93.89†	+1.13	0.93
-do- Acc	93.77	98.70†	+1.19	0.93
Monthly Income	149.00	158.40	+1.20	3.99
Recovery	289.40	309.40	+8.10	0.74
-do- Acc	338.80	362.30	+9.40	0.74
FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS				
Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts, SP1 3SH Dealing: 0722 411411 Administration: 0722 411622				
Equity Dist	341.59	363.39†	+6.31	2.85
-do- Acc	698.20	742.77†	+12.90	2.85
Euro Gth Dist	104.53	111.20	+1.44	0.88
-do- Acc	107.65	114.52	+1.48	0.88
Fixed Int Dist	128.18	135.58	+0.23	6.44
-do- Acc	215.33	227.77	+0.39	6.44
Intl Gth Dist	75.91	80.76	+1.73	0.74
-do- Acc	78.53	83.54	+1.79	0.74
Nth Amer Dist	162.30	171.93	+3.70	0.91
-do- Acc	176.01	186.45	+4.02	0.91
Pac Basin Dist	244.35	259.95	+9.44	0.16
-do- Acc	248.22	264.06	+9.60	0.16
Stewardship Dist	297.26	316.23†	+3.30	1.78
-do- Acc	354.42	377.04†	+3.94	1.78
Stwd Inc Dist	62.69	66.69†	+0.87	3.41
-do- Acc	77.40	82.34†	+1.09	3.41
N Am Stwd Dist	95.02	101.08	+3.36	...
-do- Acc	100.51	106.93	+3.56	...
GT UNIT MANAGERS				
8th Floor, 8 Devonshire Sq, London EC2M 4YJ. 071 220 4567. Dealing: 071 626 9431				
Am Sp Sits	138.60	148.30†	+3.70	...
European	401.10	425.70	+8.30	1.00
Far East General	222.50	238.00	+7.30	0.30
Germany	96.29	101.90	+1.30	0.44
Global Assets In	66.31	70.72†	+1.75	2.28
Global Assets Ac	70.31	74.98	+1.85	2.23
Income Inc	116.80	125.00	+1.20	7.03
International	259.20	277.30	+6.20	1.01
Intl Income	77.78	82.71	+1.55	4.82
Japan General	368.40	391.70†	+11.40	...
Smllr Cos Div	45.42	48.58	-0.71	6.25
UK Capital Inc	160.80	172.00	+3.50	3.88
-do- Acc	275.10	294.30	+6.10	3.81
Uk Spec Sits	73.16	78.25	+1.87	1.62
US General	110.70	118.00†	+3.30	0.12
W wide Spec Sits	114.00	122.00	+2.80	0.11
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				
Gartmore House, 16/18 Monument Street, London EC3R 8AJ. 071 623 1212 Dealing: 0277 264421. Services: 0800 289 336				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	43.35	46.36	+0.88	1.45
Cash Trust*	128.53	128.53	+0.09	5.32
Pract Inv Inc	100.95	108.26	+0.96	4.03
-do- Acc	216.71	232.40	+2.05	4.03
UK Smaller Cos	101.30	108.63	+2.34	1.04
Income Funds				
Preference Share	24.96	26.70†	-0.21	7.94
High Inc	30.92	33.07†	+0.57	5.05
UK Equity Inc	125.10	133.80	+1.64	3.99
Global Bond	29.15	30.21	+0.62	5.20
International Funds				
Gold Intl	81.20	87.08	+6.53	0.96
Frontier Markets	39.58	42.45†	+0.53	0.42
Global Inc Gth	116.64	124.45†	+2.64	2.21
UK Intl	109.66	117.28	+1.84	0.41
Overseas Funds				
American	125.12	133.34	+3.61	0.49
European	80.35	85.22	+1.30	0.67
Euro Sel Opps	93.65	99.81	+1.86	0.83
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MANAGEMENT				
Shackleton House, 4 Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 2HR. 071 378 7979 Dealing: 071 588 0526				
Intl Growth	125.05	133.74	+2.93	0.37
American Gth	118.61	126.86	+2.76	...
European Gth	65.76	70.33	-0.37	0.42
German Horizn	...	...	...	...
Japan Gth	77.68	83.08	+1.07	...
Pacific Inc	140.45	150.21	+5.27	2.85
Pacific Strategy	120.82	129.22	+7.26	0.25
UK Prog Inc	70.99	74.88	-0.26	4.61
Gt British Cos	47.18	49.70†	+0.61	2.70
UK Small Cos	44.38	47.46	-0.90	2.12
GRE UNIT MANAGERS				
36 Harbour Exchange Sq, London E14 9GE 071 538 9668				
Cash	130.90	130.90†	...	4.88
Gilt Fixed	117.40	124.60	+0.20	6.28
Growth Equity	281.70	300.90	+5.00	2.20
Guardhill	416.30	444.70	+8.40	2.26
Income Trust	107.40	114.70	+2.10	3.10
International	153.50	163.90	+2.80	0.37
Japan Trust	122.90	131.30	-0.90	...
Nth American	243.00	259.60†	+5.60	0.50
Pacific	366.90	391.90†	+15.80	...
European	338.60	361.70	+2.40	0.74
HALIFAX STANDARD TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
PO Box 600, Edinburgh EH15 1EW 0800 838868				
Global Adv Inc	34.62	36.70	+0.67	1.73
-do- Acc	36.24	38.42	+0.71	1.73
Inc Adv Inc	29.13	30.88	+0.50	4.23
-do- Acc	30.28	32.10	+0.52	4.23
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex Enquiries: 0277 227300 Dealing: 0277 690390				
Canadian	74.60	79.91	+3.73	0.96
Equity Income	109.10	116.10†	+0.10	3.55
European	129.00	136.40†	-0.10	0.89
Intl Situation	74.21	78.95	+1.12	...
Japanese	144.10	152.90	+3.00	...
North American	97.23	103.20	+3.52	...
Scandinavian	115.10	121.70	+1.80	...
Smaller Cos	29.91	31.82	+0.43	2.01

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
HENDERSON				
PO Box 2157, Kings House, 101-135 Kings Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4ET Enq: 0277 262990 Dealing: 0277 234772				
Amer Smaller	85.78	91.69†	+1.61	...
Asian Enterprise	125.09	134.87	+6.63	0.71
Australian	136.31	145.70†	+4.75	1.23
European	360.14	381.42†	+3.64	1.36
European Inc	68.08	73.00	+1.28	3.06
Euro Smal Co	120.73	128.90	+0.99	0.68
Extra Income	255.96	272.50	+2.52	4.51
Family of Funds	69.44	74.12	+1.16	1.28
Fixed Interest	54.66	58.47	-0.01	8.06
Global Resour	100.63	108.02	+8.69	0.79
High Inc	281.96	301.40†	+3.96	4.17
Income Gth	235.35	250.64	+2.91	3.34
-do- Acc	592.25	630.74	+7.33	3.34
International	224.53	240.08†	+5.73	0.83
Japan Spc Sit	234.07	249.00	+1.83	...
Japan	201.45	214.11	+0.58	...
N Amer	213.85	227.65	+7.95	0.21
Pacific Smllr Cos	183.61	197.19†	+8.87	0.36
Pref Gilt	44.68	48.54†	+0.20	8.39
Smaller Cos Div	161.28	175.78†	+1.73	3.92
Special Sits	251.97	269.60	+4.12	2.05
-do- Acc	388.26	415.43	+6.35	2.05
Best of British	54.48	58.38†	+0.88	2.33
Spirit of the East	59.38	63.70†	+2.19	0.41
HILL SAMUEL UT MANAGERS				
NLA Tower Addiscombe Road, Croydon 081 686 4355				
British	85.78	91.01	+0.08	2.50
Capital	151.80	162.30	+1.90	2.02
Dollar	295.60	316.10	+6.00	0.07
European	191.30	204.50	-2.80	0.59
Far East	232.60	248.70	+9.80	0.51
Financial	677.20	724.20†	-16.20	2.47
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	25.14	26.11	-0.15	8.17
High Yield	99.68	106.60	+1.40	4.74
Income	130.90	140.00	+2.00	3.77
Intl	208.30	222.70	+3.40	0.27
Japan Tech	69.57	74.40	+0.52	...
Nat Resources	58.60	62.67	+3.19	0.68
Security	289.50	309.60†	+3.20	2.17
Smaller Cos	107.90	115.70†	+1.30	1.51
INVESCO MIM UT MANAGERS				
11 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YR 071 626 3434. Dealing: 0800 010733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
Smaller Cos	24.09	25.41	+0.43	1.57
Special Features	26.71	28.37†	+0.54	1.65
Amer Inc	31.54	33.51†	+0.65	1.64
General Funds				
UK Growth	51.77	55.49†	+1.02	1.93

Singer & Friedlander Global Bond Fund

7½%*

paid gross

Call 071-626 6226

The price of shares and the income from them may fall as well as rise, and you may not get back the amount you originally invest. Changes in exchange rates may also affect the value. *Estimated gross annual dividend.

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Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Assets Earnings	69.21	73.53	+1.14	1.93
do Acc	81.33	86.41	+1.34	1.93
Managed Invest	85.40	91.29	+1.67	1.21
Rupert Children	73.73	78.63†	+1.21	1.85
High Income Funds				
Cashbox	50.52	50.52	+0.03	4.45
Extra Inc	77.51	82.97	+0.08	4.90
Gilt	27.47	28.94	+0.05	6.82
Income Gth	37.75	40.36†	+0.32	3.49
Midastar	74.28	76.06†	+0.22	8.07
Preference	17.70	19.35	+0.04	6.19
UK Income	300.00	320.90†	+2.70	2.99
Sector Specialist Funds				
Fincl Sec	55.15	58.59	+1.38	1.29
Property Shares	61.20	65.02	+1.70	1.82
Exempt Funds				
Exempt	140.00	147.20†	+2.10	3.80
European Acc	107.60	114.10	+1.80	1.84
European Dist	102.40	108.60	+1.70	1.84
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Gth	47.46	50.49	+0.91	0.90
European Perf	106.70	113.40	+2.00	1.07
-do- Acc	108.70	115.50	+2.00	1.07
Euro Small Cos	20.74	22.09	+0.12	0.75
French Growth	64.13	68.36	-0.30	0.54
-do- Acc	68.51	73.03	-0.31	0.54
Hong K/China	70.14	75.40	+4.27	1.65
Intl Growth	50.04	53.16	+1.13	0.66
-do- Acc	50.04	53.16	+1.13	0.66
Japan Perf	34.74	36.91	+0.21	...
Accum Units	34.74	36.91	+0.21	...
Japan Smllr Cos	36.22	38.51	+1.53	...
Singapore Asean	77.74	84.55	+4.88	0.29
-do- Acc	78.23	85.07	+4.91	0.29
South East Asia	225.20	243.90	+13.00	0.98
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUST LTD				
10 Fenchurch Street, London EC3 071 956 6600. Dealing: 071 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Cash Acc*	69.31	69.65†	+0.06	5.00
Extra Income	50.82	54.06	+0.18	6.77
Gilt Yield	117.10	123.60	+0.30	7.45
Global Income	195.30	207.80†	+5.90	4.22
High Yield	129.60	137.90†	+1.90	6.00
Smllr Cos Div	47.04	50.04†	+1.15	4.20
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	86.37	91.88	+2.28	...
North American	72.65	77.29	+2.17	0.41
European	127.60	135.70	+1.80	0.86
Euro Special	76.83	81.73	+0.88	0.94
General	256.70	273.10	+3.60	3.27
Japan	418.40	445.10†	+20.20	...
Japanese Special	228.60	243.20	+17.10	...
Master Acc	210.90	224.40	+2.20	1.38
Pacific	261.40	278.10†	+11.10	0.58
Smaller Cos	97.33	103.50	-1.40	2.03

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
IAS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
113 Dundas St, Edinburgh EH3 5EB 031 550 5151				
European	72.19	76.80	+1.20	0.94
Extra Income	23.51	25.01†	+0.38	3.26
Far East	26.85	28.56†	+1.08	0.95
Income Gwth	71.12	75.66	+1.23	2.81
Intl Growth	50.49	53.71†	+1.00	0.71
Japan	64.74	68.87	+1.40	...
Maximum Dist*	95.51	101.50†	+0.20	6.86
N Amer Equity	37.20	39.57	+0.87	0.27
UK Equity	84.74	90.15†	+1.33	3.07
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT				
1 White Hart Yard, London SE1. 071 407 5966				
Income Gth Inc	52.69	56.05	+1.05	4.46
LEGAL & GENERAL UT MANAGERS				
5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood Essex Enq: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690395				
Equity Dist	416.40	443.00	+7.30	2.92
Equity Acc	790.40	840.90	+13.90	2.92
Equity Income	90.00	95.74	+0.80	5.16
European	92.90	98.83	+1.11	1.73
Far Eastern	181.10	192.70	+7.50	0.30
Fixed Interest	50.73	53.97	+0.11	6.47
Gilt	88.59	93.94†	-0.22	6.55
Global Growth	64.56	68.66	+1.70	0.70
Intl Bond	55.58	58.92	-1.27	4.82
Japanese	69.42	73.85	+0.71	...
Overseas Equity	93.18	99.13	+2.36	0.80
Pacific Gth	85.47	90.93†	+4.84	1.23
LLOYDS BANK UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
Mountbatten Hse, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF 0634 834315				
Balanced	306.30	325.60†	+9.00	2.96
-do- Acc	672.70	715.70	+20.00	2.96
Contl Euro Gth	48.31	51.91	+0.36	1.58
-do- Acc	52.14	54.89	+0.37	1.58
Extra Inc	237.90	253.10	+4.20	3.87
-do- Acc	578.40	615.40	+10.00	3.87
German Gth	99.47	104.80	-1.80	0.31
-do- Acc	104.40	109.90	-2.00	0.31
Growth Port	482.20	513.00	+6.60	0.77
-do- Acc	482.20	513.00	+6.60	0.77
Income	439.50	467.60†	+6.50	3.56
-do- Acc	1128.0	1200.0	+17.00	3.56
Income Port	480.00	510.70†	+4.40	4.01
-do- Acc	484.70	515.70	+4.50	4.01
Japan Growth	95.36	101.50	+2.61	0.01
-do- Acc	95.70	101.80	+2.68	0.01
Master Trust	51.03	54.29	+0.76	1.67
-do- Acc	55.50	59.05	+0.83	1.67
N American Gen	174.60	185.80	+5.90	0.01
-do- Acc	201.70	214.60	+6.80	0.01
NAm Smt Co Rec	131.70	140.20	+4.40	0.01
-do- Acc	134.40	143.00	+4.40	0.01
Pacific Basin	198.50	211.60	+6.80	0.52
-do- Acc	210.20	223.70	+7.20	0.52
Small Cos Rec	298.20	313.90†	+1.90	2.32
-do- Acc	388.30	408.80	+2.40	2.32
UK Growth	77.90	82.88	+1.41	2.45
-do- Acc	90.84	96.64	+1.64	2.45
Worldwide Gth	268.70	285.90	+6.00	0.29
LONDON & MANCHESTER				
Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS 0392 282673				
General	75.33	80.83†	+1.42	3.10
Income	59.30	63.63	-1.07	5.80
International	55.98	60.06	+1.13	0.80
American	57.65	61.86	+1.74	0.40
Japan	53.83	57.76	+0.80	...
Tst of Inv Trusts	54.33	58.29†	+0.76	2.00
M & G SECURITIES LTD				
Victoria Rd, Chelmsford CM1 1FB Customer Services/Unit Dealing: 0245 390390				
American Gen	373.90	394.80	+10.80	0.84
-do- Acc	461.40	487.10	+13.30	0.84
American Rec	402.80	426.00†	+18.00	0.18
-do- Acc	461.50	488.10	+20.60	0.18
Am Sm Co Acc	114.50	121.10	+3.20	0.01
Australia Acc	153.50	162.30	+5.90	1.23
Capital	645.90	683.00	+11.20	2.59
-do- Acc	712.70	753.60	+12.40	2.59
Commodity Acc	426.80	451.50	+24.20	0.75
Compnd Gth	797.80	843.70	+9.50	2.97
Dividend*	34.20	36.20†	-0.20	4.25
-do- Acc	135.50	143.40	+1.60	4.25
Equity Inc	289.90	306.60	+1.70	4.84
European Div	58.30	61.60	+0.50	4.38
-do- Acc	65.90	69.70	+0.60	4.38
European Gen	373.30	394.80	+3.90	1.67
-do- Acc	466.40	493.20	+4.90	1.67
Extra Yield	369.00	390.20	+4.50	4.37
-do- Acc	1078.9	1141.1	+13.30	4.37
Far Eastern	298.60	315.80	+13.00	0.59
-do- Acc	392.80	415.40	+17.10	0.59
Fund of Inv	483.30	511.10†	+0.60	2.27
-do- Acc	881.50	932.30	+11.10	2.27
General	52.40	55.40	+0.70	3.63
-do- Acc	138.10	146.00	+1.90	3.63
Gilt Fxd Int	60.20	60.30†	-0.90	7.99
do Acc	151.30	151.40	+0.30	7.99
Gold	54.70	57.80	+7.20	0.90
-do- Acc	64.00	67.60	+8.40	0.90
High Inc	24.60	26.00	+0.30	4.60
-do- Acc	91.00	96.50	+1.30	4.60
Intl Growth	67.40	71.30	+1.00	0.93
-do- Acc	116.30	123.00	+1.80	0.93

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Intl Inc	91.00	96.20†	+2.30	4.59
Japan Gen Acc	49.80	52.70	+0.90	...
Japan Smllr Cos	148.30	157.10	+6.20	...
Midland	52.30	55.30†	+0.50	3.42
-do- Acc	167.40	177.00	+1.60	3.42
Recovery	35.80	37.90	+0.50	2.78
-do- Acc	56.30	59.60	+0.90	2.78
Second Gen	60.20	63.70	+1.10	3.54
-do- Acc	147.10	155.80	+2.70	3.54
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
PO Box 410, Chester X, CH99 9QG 0244 680066				
Inv Port Inc	133.50	142.70	+1.90	2.04
-do- Acc	148.20	158.50	+2.10	2.04
UK Income	111.80	119.50	+1.60	2.66
-do- Acc	124.70	133.30	+1.80	2.66
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Saltire Court, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2ES. 031 229 5252				
Emerg Mkts	77.50	82.88	+3.56	0.82
Far East (Pacific)	134.60	142.80	+5.20	0.66
Income Growth	69.35	73.61†	+0.86	3.16
European	65.62	69.66	+0.54	1.30
Nth American	55.19	58.58	+0.78	1.04
UK Growth	73.06	77.55	-0.07	1.66
Intl Growth	92.49	98.18†	+2.84	0.66
Charities	105.10	111.50†	+2.10	3.82
Intl Income	66.81	70.92	+1.79	4.25
Japan	53.53	56.82	+0.99	0.07
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD				
33 King William St, EC4R 9AS. 071 280 2860				
American	182.30	193.40	+6.00	...
-do- Acc	194.80	206.60	+6.40	...
Cash	100.40	100.40†	+0.10	5.40
-do- Acc	128.10	128.10†	+0.10	5.40
European Gth	187.30	198.60	+2.40	0.80
-do- Acc	200.50	212.70	+2.60	0.80
General	446.30	476.10†	+6.40	2.55
-do- Acc	848.80	905.40†	+11.90	2.55
Global Dist	129.50	136.50†	+2.30	5.35
-do- Acc	145.30	152.70†	+2.50	5.35
Income	133.80	142.80	+0.80	4.77
-do- Acc	195.80	209.00	+1.30	4.76
International	375.90	400.60	+9.30	0.70
-do- Acc	498.60	531.50	+12.40	0.70
Japan	180.80	191.80	+5.90	...
-do- Acc	185.50	196.80	+6.00	...
New Europe	133.90	142.90	+2.50	1.82
-do- Acc	138.10	145.20	+2.50	1.82
Recovery	285.00	304.10	+1.40	2.95
-do- Acc	360.30	384.40	+1.70	2.95
European Inc	72.11	76.70	+0.74	3.18
-do- Acc	91.48	97.30	+0.94	3.18
Brit Blue Chip	69.94	74.51†	+0.90	3.38
-do- Acc	82.48	87.88†	+1.06	3.38
Portfolio	72.01	76.60†	+0.98	2.96
-do- Acc	81.88	87.10†	+1.11	2.96
Gold General	114.20	122.60	+14.50	0.76
-do- Acc	115.70	124.50	+14.80	0.76
Pacific	90.44	96.47	+5.38	0.87
-do- Acc	95.53	101.90	+5.61	0.87
MIDLAND UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
192 Eyre Street, Sheffield, S1 3RD Dealing: 0742 528 280 Enquiries: 0742 529 076				
Balanced Dist	56.05	59.95†	+0.48	3.02
-do- Acc	56.92	60.88	+0.49	3.02
British Dist	75.34	80.58	+1.39	2.03
-do- Acc	85.29	91.22	+1.58	2.03
European Gth	164.20	175.50	+3.50	0.32
-do- Acc	206.20	220.30	+4.40	0.32
Extra High Inc	67.28	71.96†	+0.59	6.30
-do- Acc	118.30	126.50	+1.00	6.30
FT-SE 100 Index	47.55	50.86	+1.01	2.66
-do- Acc	47.55	50.86	+1.01	2.66
Gilt Fixed Int	55.41	57.68	+0.15	6.84
-do- Acc	145.80	151.70	+0.40	6.84
High Yield	210.20	224.80†	+2.40	4.69
-do- Acc	498.50	527.80	+5.60	4.69
Income	222.00	280.90	+4.30	3.51
-do- Acc	565.40	604.70	+8.80	3.51
Japan Gth	334.40	357.60	-0.70	...
-do- Acc	353.00	377.50	-0.70	...
Mandarin Acc	95.66	102.30	+4.32	1.20
MORGAN GRENFELL INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD				
20 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 1UT Dealing: 071 826 0826 Enquiries: 071 826 0123				
American Gth	253.00	269.50	+8.70	...
Deposit Inc	99.96	99.96	-0.24	5.05
Deposit Acc	122.25	122.25	+0.08	5.05
Euro Gth Acc	268.30	286.60	+9.10	...
Europa	121.00	129.70	+3.70	...
Intl Gth	166.10	177.50†	+4.70	...
Japan Tracker	74.99	78.75†	+0.36	...
UK Equity Inc	144.40	155.50†	+2.40	4.22
-do- Acc	176.50	190.50†	+2.90	4.22
UK Ind Tracker	139.90	149.80	+2.80	3.22
US Eq Ind Trkr	183.60	194.70	+4.60	1.50
-do- Acc	194.20	206.00	+4.90	1.50
Asian Trader	158.80	169.00†	+10.90	0.46
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT				
7 West Nile St, Glasgow G2 2PX. 0345 900 933				
American Inc	160.00	163.70	+5.30	2.31
European	58.96	62.20	+0.14	1.19
Olympiad	53.10	54.51	+1.73	0.43
Global Bond	46.24	46.75†	+0.32	6.71
Smaller Cos	63.39	66.20†	-0.39	1.23
Equity Income	93.53	92.98	+1.03	5.12
UK Growth	80.39	82.73†	+0.58	2.15
NM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
The Bilton Centre, North Harbour, Portsmouth. Enquiries: 0705 372222 Dealing: 0705 387738				
American Acc	45.05	48.05	+1.11	1
Australian Acc	291	312.20	+11.00	...
Conscience	61.91	66.07	-0.43	1.07
-do- Acc	66.48	70.94	-0.47	1.07
European	161.60	172.30†	+1.20	1.13
-do- Acc	173.90	185.40	+2.00	1.13
Extra Income	70.81	75.57	+0.51	5.88
-do- Acc	107.40	114.60	+0.70	5.88
Far East Gth	161.80	172.50	+8.40	0.07
Gilt Fxd Inc	57.14	60.48	-0.12	6.42
Gold	43.82	46.79	+6.06	...
-do- Acc	46.86	50.38	+6.52	...
Income	50.97	54.36	+0.46	5.17
-do- Acc	152.80	162.90	+1.30	5.17
International	28.74	30.83	+0.86	1.07
-do- Acc	41.30	44.31	+1.24	1.07
Jap Sm Cos Acc	332.20	354.30	+18.20	...
S pore Mly Acc	179.40	192.30	+17.40	...
Smllr Cos Acc	24.77	26.63	+0.33	2.07
N & P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
35 Fountain St, Manchester M2 2AF 061 257 5322				
N&P UK Growth	66.15	70.38	+0.96	2.82
N&P Glt Fxd Int	72.85	77.10	...	7.21
N&P Higher Inc	191.00	203.20	-2.70	4.49
N&P UK Income	97.60	103.84†	-1.10	3.91
N&P Intl	85.01	90.44†	+1.49	1.80
N&P Smaller Cos	74.57	79.33	+3.72	1.54
NEWTON FUND MANAGERS				
2 London Bridge, London SE1 9RA 071 407 4404				
General	157.92	168.03†	+3.17	2.33
Global	274.53	292.06†	+8.04	1.14
Growth	104.39	111.08†	+1.70	2.55
Income	193.58	206.31†	+2.05	4.40
Intl Bond	121.80	129.52†	-0.21	6.49
PEARL UNIT TRUST LTD				
PO Box 508, Peterborough PE2 6BR 0733 470470. Dealing: 0800 626577				
Growth	133.50	140.50†	+2.40	2.62

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
-do- Acc	236.90	249.30	+4.30	2.62
Income	212.80	226.30†	+4.00	3.64
Intl Equity	216.00	229.80	+3.50	0.91
-do- Acc	236.50	251.50	+3.80	0.91
Equity	213.10	226.70	+4.00	2.45
-do- Acc	432.10	459.60	+8.00	2.45
UK Intl 25 Acc	67.58	71.89	+1.26	1.95
UK Income	59.13	62.90	+1.01	3.16
UK Smllr Co Acc	71.19	75.73	+0.70	1.50
New Europe Acc	59.22	63.00	+0.51	1.51
PERPETUAL UNIT TRUST				
48 Hart Street, Henley on Thames 0491 417000				
Asian Smllr Mkt	91.19	97.53	+5.34	0.12
PEP Gth Inc	97.67	104.46	+2.04	1.30
Intl Gth	466.64	499.09	+8.11	0.89
Income	290.87	311.10†	+4.86	3.51
W wide Recov	297.89	318.60	+6.63	0.42
American Gth	195.41	209.00	+5.03	0.01
Intl Emerg Cos	180.62	193.18	+5.57	0.10
Far East Gth	212.02	226.76	+4.36	0.03
European Gth	109.49	117.11	+1.22	1.39
UK Growth	74.45	79.63	+1.17	3.08
High Income	80.98	86.62	+1.38	4.60
Japanese Gth	213.74	226.98	+3.30	0.01
PROLIFIC UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
Walbrook Hse, 23 Walbrook, London EC4N 8LD. Dealing: 0800 262443				
International	168.10	178.80†	+3.80	0.89
High Income	104.90	111.50†	-0.90	3.74
Conv Gilt	108.50	115.50	+1.50	6.42
Far East	299.60	318.70	+7.40	0.39
PROSPERITY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT				
1 Sessions Hse Sq, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. 0622 674751				
American	47.75	50.80	+0.50	0.22
Emerging Mkts	59.32	63.11	+2.14	0.60
General	46.98	49.98	+0.83	3.26
International	80.93	86.10†	+0.86	1.40
Gilt Units	24.86	25.63†	-0.05	7.52
Global PEP	33.59	35.73†	+0.27	2.15
Income Gth	63.12	67.15†	+1.33	4.88
European	40.99	43.61	+0.10	0.69
Gilt/Fixed Int	25.53	27.16	+0.22	5.75
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
51/59 Ilford Hill, Ilford, Essex IG1 2DL 081 478 3377. Enquiries: 071 911 4490 Intermediary Dealing: 071 911 4314 Pricebank: 0426 925691				
Pru Mngd Tst	30.50	32.62	+0.61	1.52
Pru Csh Hvn Inc	100.86	100.86†	+0.08	5.25
-do- Acc	104.97	104.97†	+0.08	5.25
Pru Equity	639.07	683.49†	+8.84	2.48
Pru Equity Inc	77.25	82.61†	-0.72	4.65
Pru European	166.85	178.44	+1.82	1.89
Pru Global Gth	77.22	82.58	+1.34	1.56
Pru High Inc	84.25	90.10†	+0.23	5.70
Pru Intl	157.38	168.32	+3.68	1.29
Pru Intl Sm Co	66.20	70.80†	+1.44	0.91
Pru Japanese	198.22	212.00†	+1.16	...
Pru Nth Amer	136.08	145.48	+2.36	0.48
Pru Pacific Mkt	73.97	79.11	+4.12	1.78
Pru Premr Inc	48.30	50.30†	+0.14	7.61
Pru Smllr Cos	80.92	86.43†	-0.38	2.00
Pru Spec Sits	96.09	102.77	+1.74	2.26
Pru UK Growth	107.12	114.56†	+1.73	2.36
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
St Swithin's Lane, London EC4N 8NR Dealing: 071 634 2981/4				
NC Income	149.31	160.82†	+3.31	3.68
NC Japan	268.27	287.54	+1.29	...
NC Maj UK Cos	90.93	97.77	+1.45	2.46
NC America Inc	462.65	496.25	+11.29	0.86
-do- Acc	537.37	576.40	+13.12	0.86
NC Smlr UK Cos	256.23	279.55	+3.65	1.52
NC European	246.19	262.64	+3.33	1.33
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP				
16-22 Western Rd, Romford RM1 3LB 0708 766966 or 0800 829929 (IFAs only)				
Amer Inc Gth	70.18	74.65†	+2.12	3.78
Capital Units	140.40	149.30	+3.30	1.32
Commodity	104.60	111.20	+9.80	1.17
European Gth	147.80	157.20	+2.00	1.35
Financial Sec	166.80	177.40	+4.70	1.90
High Return	209.50	223.20	+3.20	4.46
High Yield	200.90	213.70†	+3.10	4.09
Income Units	106.40	113.10	+1.60	4.86
Investment	168.50	179.20†	+2.20	1.16
Japan Gth	152.20	161.90	+3.30	...
Japan Smaller	186.30	198.10†	+11.30	...
Managed	45.34	48.23	+1.16	0.94
Scotbits	242.90	258.40	+7.60	1.63
Scotshares	251.30	267.30	+0.30	2.71
Scotyields	218.00	231.90	+3.50	3.99
Select Intl	126.40	134.40†	+3.00	0.74
Smaller Cos	224.60	238.90†	+4.40	4.03
Special Situation	107.60	114.40	+1.30	0.84
UK Equity	219.80	233.80	+4.10	2.87
US Growth	132.70	141.10	-3.10	0.40
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
33 Gutter Lane, London EC2V 8AS. Client line: 0800 526 535. Broker line: 0800 526 540				
American	225.83	240.88†	+4.19	0.51
-do- Acc	244.64	260.95	+4.54	0.51
Australian	126.43	134.85	+3.27	0.79
-do- Acc	148.63	158.54	+3.85	0.79
UK Enterprise	203.40	216.95	+2.11	2.43
-do- Acc	234.96	250.62	+2.44	2.43
European Gth	59.27	63.22	+1.17	1.39
-do- Acc	61.36	65.45	+1.22	1.39
Euro Smllr Cos	55.01	58.67	+0.24	0.38
-do- Acc	55.38	59.07	+0.24	0.38
Far Eastern Gth	69.14	73.74	+3.33	...
-do- Acc	70.25	74.93	+3.38	...
Fixed Interest	51.64	54.46	+0.08	6.87
-do- Acc	62.71	66.14	+0.08	6.87
Gilt Income	100.65	106.07	+0.04	7.57
-do- Acc	140.58	148.14	+0.06	7.57
Income	304.06	324.33	+8.15	4.06
-do- Acc	896.89	956.69	+24.06	4.06
Japan Enterprise	67.11	71.58†	+0.59	...
-do- Acc	67.11	71.58	+0.59	...
Japan Smllr Cos	461.90	492.69	+25.46	...
-do- Acc	462.83	493.67	+25.51	...
Pacific Gth	91.60	97.70	+4.76	0.20
-do- Acc	94.32	100.59	+4.89	0.20
Smaller Cos	185.55	197.91	+2.94	0.93
-do- Acc	212.64	226.81	+3.36	0.93
Tokyo	106.55	113.65	+1.19	...
-do- Acc	107.65	114.80	+1.20	...
UK Equity	203.03	216.56	+4.09	2.71
-do- Acc	375.98	401.05	+7.58	2.71
US Smllr Cos	127.99	136.52†	+2.80	...
-do- Acc	127.99	136.52	+2.80	...
World Fd	68.62	73.19	+1.20	1.61
-do- Acc	72.35	77.16	+1.26	1.61
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
150 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5NQ 041 204 2200				
Equity Income	44.62	47.52	+1.57	4.43
Equity Strategy	63.87	68.02	+2.03	1.21
European Opps	69.98	74.53	+0.67	3.22
Maximum Inc	98.81	101.36	+0.10	5.38
UK Smaller Cos	50.45	53.73	+0.27	3.21
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS				
19 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh. 031 225 2211				
UK Equity	337.80	360.70	+6.20	2.78
American	233.10	247.50	+4.70	0.96
Pacific	324.90	347.50	+8.40	0.67
European	441.10	471.80	+3.70	1.26
Worldwide	78.00	83.42	+2.23	1.19
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT				
109 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5HN 041 248 6100				
UK Equity	295.70	314.60	+5.40	2.59

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Sm Cos Eqy	203.10	216.10	+3.70	1.85
European	323.00	343.70†	+8.30	2.20
North American	240.30	255.60†	+7.30	0.52
Income Plus Inc	63.28	67.32	+0.23	3.72
UK Spec Sits	66.14	70.37	-1.51	2.23
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LTD				
6 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh EH2 2YA 031 558 2341/2/3				
Equity Gth Acc	25.09	26.85†	+0.69	2.93
Intl Growth Acc	28.49	30.49†	+0.64	1.11
Global Inc Acc	30.50	32.65	+0.47	3.78
Market Ldrs Acc	25.66	27.46	+0.67	2.89
SG TOUCHE REMNANT				
3 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA. 071 418 4029				
American Gth	78.21	83.64	+2.67	...
Euro Spec Sits	44.36	47.20†	+0.19	...
-do- Acc	46.97	49.97	+0.20	...
Far East Opps	31.93	34.34	+1.86	...
-do- Acc	32.81	35.28	+1.91	...
General Growth	97.38	104.20	+1.60	2.02
Global Tech	115.40	124.70†	+4.20	...
Income Growth	100.20	107.80	+1.30	3.47
Income Monthly	56.55	60.48	+0.24	4.26
Japan Growth	81.23	86.37	+1.10	...
Overseas Gth	73.14	77.85†	+1.16	...
Smaller Cos	71.66	77.05†	+0.78	1.60
Special Opps	101.20	108.80	+2.20	2.13
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD				
21 New Street, Bishopsgate, London EC2M 2HR 071 626 6226				
European	$94.83	...	+0.84	...
Global Bond	$94.34	...	+0.13	7.50
Japan Samurai	$94.63	...	+0.32	...
UK Growth	$94.28	...	+1.68	4.20
STANDARD LIFE TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
3 George St, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ 0800 393777				
Managed	43.19	45.89	+0.91	1.73
Equity Gth Acc	57.90	61.52	+0.84	1.55
UK Eq General	41.00	43.57†	+0.85	2.20
-do- Acc	54.21	57.60	-1.12	2.20
European Acc	40.28	42.80	+0.32	1.15
Far East Acc	54.58	58.00	+1.39	0.21
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	29.58	31.29†	+0.09	6.79
N American Acc	41.35	43.94	+0.85	0.81
O/s Lgr Cos Acc	270.10	293.10	+4.80	1.50
UK Eq High Inc	34.42	36.58†	+0.49	3.79
-do- Acc	40.87	43.43	+0.57	3.79
UK Lgr Cos Inc	282.00	306.00†	+4.80	3.84
UK Lgr Cos Acc	367.10	398.40	+6.30	3.84
STATE STREET UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
Birchin Court, 20 Birchin Lane, London EC3V 9AQ. 071 626 1977				
Global A	N283.60	N283.82	-0.02	1.20
US Eq	$2.087	$2.216	+0.01	0.79
Far East Eq	Y248.9	Y264.4	+0.30	...
Japan Eq	Y249.1	Y264.6	+6.80	...
FT Europe	109.80	116.60	+0.60	2.17
FT North Am	$1.700	$1.802	+0.00	1.08
FT Japan	Y239.4	Y254.3	-4.40	...
FT Asia Ex Jap	$1.868	$1.984	+0.04	1.71
STEWART IVORY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
45 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh 031 226 3271				
American	325.90	347.10	+7.80	0.32
British	912.00	964.90	+8.90	4.39
European	387.40	412.60	+3.30	1.43
Japan	143.30	152.30	+3.30	...
New Pacific	289.60	308.40	+13.80	1.29
Mngd Cash	95.78	95.78	+0.06	5.08
Majority Stlg	99.96	100.96	+0.07	4.87
Inv Tst	181.90	192.80	+2.40	1.84
Saints PPP	366.90	382.60	-3.60	...
SUN ALLIANCE				
Admin. 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Essex 0277 227300 Dealing: 0277 690389				
Equity Acc	712.40	761.90	+13.30	2.74
N America Acc	110.20	117.90	+4.00	0.09
Far East Acc	121.40	129.80	+4.80	...
W wide Bond	59.71	63.39†	+1.22	5.42
European	81.17	86.81	+0.93	0.30
Equity Income	80.44	86.03	+1.12	3.24
SUN LIFE OF CANADA				
Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ Dealing: 0256 841414				
American Gth	32.60	34.87	+0.41	0.58
Managed Assets	115.98	124.05	+1.38	3.32
UK Income	35.94	38.44	+0.71	3.14
UK Growth	35.49	37.96	+0.63	2.41
Worldwide Gth	29.99	32.08†	+0.26	0.39
TSB UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Charlton Place, Andover, Hants. SP10 1RE 0264 346794				
American	196.49	209.03	+4.54	0.13
-do- Acc	215.81	229.58	+4.99	0.13
British Gth	83.61	88.95†	+2.06	1.87
-do- Acc	98.38	104.66†	+2.42	1.87
European	93.75	99.73	+0.78	0.96
-do- Acc	98.88	105.19	+0.81	0.96
Extra Inc	182.40	194.04	+2.73	3.90
-do- Acc	290.97	309.54	+4.35	3.90
General Unit	253.97	270.18	+4.43	2.52
-do- Acc	501.13	533.12	+8.75	2.52
Income	318.13	338.44	+3.69	3.51
-do- Acc	647.99	689.35	+7.51	3.51
International	469.76	499.75†	+10.89	0.54
-do- Acc	614.93	654.18†	+14.25	0.54
Pacific	337.01	358.52	+16.17	...
-do- Acc	352.95	375.48	+16.94	...
Premier Income	48.86	51.94†	+0.23	6.32
-do- Acc	103.96	108.39†	+0.44	6.32
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
33 Cavendish Sq, London W1M 7HF 071 493 7262 Dealing: 071 493 8545				
European Opps	59.39	63.28	+0.27	0.47
-do- Acc	60.01	63.93	+0.26	0.47
Far East Opps	149.60	159.57	+5.04	...
-do- Acc	153.09	163.29	+5.16	...
WAVERLEY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
13 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh EH2 4DJ 031 225 1551				
Australasian Gold	17.16	18.25	+1.75	0.50
Pacific Basin	30.82	32.78	+1.44	0.60
Canadian Gth	35.57	37.83	+1.44	...
Global Bond	$0.975	$1.015	-0.01	7.25
Penny Share	23.95	25.47	+0.43	1.50
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
2 Honey Lane, London EC2V 8BT 071 606 3132				
City Reserve	52.68	52.68	+0.03	5.40
Gilt Growth	65.20	67.84	+0.25	...
Gilt Income	51.41	53.50	+0.24	7.75
Short Dtd Gilt	106.10	107.40†	+0.40	...
US Govmnt Bd	$0.715	$0.725	0.00	...
Challenger	89.90	91.98	+2.40	...
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
2 White Oak Square, Swanley BR8 7AG 081 298 4000				
Stockmarket Fd	66.51	70.75	+1.24	2.08

Source: Finstat

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; ... No significant data.

FT-SE VOLUMES

ASDA Gp	23,000	Carlton Cm	1,200	Land Secs	1,600	Scot Hydro	745
Abbey Natl	3,700	Coats Viyella	394	Legal & Gn	574	Scot & New	1,400
Alld-Lyons	3,600	Cm Union	609	Lloyds Bk	1,600	Scot Power	3,100
Anglian W	630	Courtaulds	360	MB Cardn	454	Sears	3,700
Argyll Gp	3,300	De La Rue	419	Marks Spr	3,300	Svrn Trent	1,000
Arjo Wiggn	1,200	Eng China C	267	NFC	1,700	Shell Trans	3,600
AB Foods	889	Enterpr Oil	1,800	NatWst Bk	3,200	Siebe	2,000
BAA	985	Fisons	943	Nat Power	1,200	SmKl Bch	737
BAT Inds	1,800	Forte	1,800	Nth Wst W	868	Smith Nph	3,000
BOC	1,300	GRE	1,800	Nthrn Fds	2,200	Sthrn Elec	241
BP	15,000	GUS A	247	P & O	1,400	Std Chartd	225
BT	13,000	Gen Acc	751	Pearson	433	Sun Allnce	2,200
BTR	2,900	Gen Elec	2,500	PowerGen	2,000	TI Gp	1,100
Bk of Scot	1,600	Glaxo	3,700	Prudential	4,400	TSB	3,900
Barclays	1,700	Granada	2,300	RTZ	2,700	Tate & Lyle	833
Bass	1,700	Grand Met	5,900	Rank Org	920	Tesco	4,100
Blue Circle	1,900	Guinness	2,000	Reckitt Col	535	Thames W	1,400
Boots	4,700	HSBC	4,100	Redland	678	Thrn EMI	458
Bowater	1,300	Hanson	6,400	Reed Intl	1,000	Tomkins	10,000
Brit Airwys	4,300	ICI	1,100	Rentokil	301	Unilever	3,800
Brit Gas	9,200	Inchcape	2,200	Reuters	578	Utd Bisc	2,100
Brit Steel	8,300	Kingfisher	669	Rothmans	129	Vodafone	4,600
Burmah Cast	220	Kwik Save	1,000	Ryl Ins	850	Wellcome	994
Cable Wire	979	LASMO	1,100	Ryl Bk Scot	2,800	Whitbd 'A'	784
Cadbury	1,000	Ladbroke	6,300	Sainsbury	1,900	Wilms Hld	2,200

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday): Dow Jones 3454.35 (+6.36); S&P Composite 439.62 (+0.39)

Tokyo: Nikkei Av'ge 20474.15 (-58.63)

Hong Kong: Hang Seng 7005.29 (-103.47)

Amsterdam: CBS Tendency 107.5 (-0.6)

Sydney: AO 1698.5 (+4.1)

Frankfurt: DAX 1634.51 (-5.28)

FT 30 share: 2218.6 (+2.9)

Brussels: General 6101.19 (+29.83)

Paris: CAC 512.77 (-2.88)

Zurich: SKA Gen 488.8 (-1.2)

London: FT A All-Share 1402.58 (-1.71); FT 500 1529.54 (-2.82); FT Gold Mines 165.1 (+3.6); FT Fixed Interest 110.92 (-0.07); FT Govt Secs 94.71 (-0.14); Bargains 28018; SEAQ Volume 620.0m; USM (Datastrm) 137.05 (-0.11)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
April 26	May 7	July 29	August 9

Call options were taken out on 14/5/93: J Bibby, Cluff Res, Driefontein, French Connection, Greenwich Res, Hartstone, Lonrho, MIM, Nth Broken Hill, Simon Engineering, Waverley, York TV.

Puts: Amstrad, Goldsmiths, Sims Food. Puts & Calls: Hanson Wts, Ramers.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Contract	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100 (Previous open interest: 48525)	Jun 93	2849.0	2865.0	2841.0	2858.0	8461
	Sep 93	2866.5	2884.5	2866.5	2881.0	864
Three Month Sterling (Previous open interest: 301642)	Jun 93	93.98	94.01	93.93	93.94	11452
	Sep 93	94.06	94.07	93.92	93.95	29068
	Dec 93	93.95	93.98	93.84	93.86	5279
Three Mth Eurodollar (Previous open interest: 16785)	Jun 93	96.75	96.77	96.71	96.72	643
	Sep 93	96.63	96.65	96.59	96.59	635
Three Mth Euro DM (Previous open interest: 558975)	Jun 93	92.88	92.90	92.86	92.87	17247
	Sep 93	93.70	93.73	93.65	93.67	35643
US Treasury Bond (Previous open interest: 1)	Jun 93				110-06	0
	Sep 93				108-30	0
Long Gilt (Previous open interest: 75703)	Jun 93	103-22	103-31	103-10	103-14	36430
	Sep 93	102-25	102-27	102-21	102-16	24
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 93	107.75	107.91	107.75	107.85	402
	Sep 93	106.95	107.04	106.90	106.99	1439
German Govmt Bond (Previous open interest: 166059)	Jun 93	95.01	95.08	94.63	94.74	92633
	Sep 93	95.18	95.21	94.87	94.97	1830
Three month ECU (Previous open interest: 23460)	Jun 93	92.32	92.35	92.30	92.33	1813
	Sep 93	93.00	93.02	92.97	93.00	607
Euro Swiss Franc (Previous open interest: 36457)	Jun 93	95.12	95.14	95.05	95.07	6451
	Sep 93	95.60	95.62	95.53	95.54	3234
Italian Govmt Bond (Previous open interest: 39407)	Jun 93	97.90	98.41	97.80	98.39	15080
	Sep 93	97.80	98.16	97.80	98.16	33

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was up at 80.0 (day's range 79.7-80.0).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for May 14	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.7559-2.7700	2.7659-2.7693	¼-⅛ds	⅝-⅞ds
Brussels	50.54-50.77	50.69-50.76	4-8ds	12-17ds
Copenhagen	9.4690-9.5380	9.5150-9.5380	3⅛-5ds	6-8⅞ds
Dublin	1.0165-1.0190	1.0168-1.0189	12-18ds	37-47ds
Frankfurt	2.4571-2.4699	2.4607-2.4640	¼-½ds	⅜-1ds
Lisbon	233.20-243.10	235.20-243.10	193-242ds	549-645ds
Madrid	186.50-188.90	186.80-188.50	83-130ds	247-328ds
Milan	2261.60-2277.00	2261.60-2267.80	8-10ds	26-29ds
Montreal	1.9433-1.9593	1.9572-1.9593	0.24-0.15pr	0.39-0.27pr
New York	1.5295-1.5385	1.5375-1.5385	0.38-0.37pr	1.08-1.05pr
Oslo	10.4360-10.5110	10.4870-10.5110	⅞-2⅞ds	3-5¼ds
Paris	8.3020-8.3360	8.3020-8.3160	1⅛-1⅜ds	3⅛-3⅜ds
Stockholm	11.2470-11.3350	11.3120-11.3350	2⅞-3⅞ds	7⅛-8⅜ds
Tokyo	170.20-171.05	170.47-170.67	⅛-⅜pr	1¼-1⅛pr
Vienna	17.29-17.38	17.34-17.37	1½-2½ds	3⅝-5⅝ds
Zurich	2.2215-2.2363	2.2332-2.2363	¼pr-par	⅝-⅜pr

Source: Extel. Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5311-1.5337
Australia dollar	2.1821-2.1851
Bahrain dinar	0.571-0.583
Brazil cruzeiro*	55908.0-55944.6
Cyprus pound	0.725-0.735
Finland markka	8.422-8.538
Greece drachma	330.75-337.75
Hong Kong dollar	11.8563-11.8651
India rupee	47.49-48.45
Kuwait dinar KD	0.456-0.466
Malaysia ringgit	3.9393-3.9426
Mexico peso	4.75-4.85
New Zealand dollar	2.8240-2.8295
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.6745-5.8005
Singapore dollar	2.4783-2.4809
S Africa rand (fin)	7.2475-7.3623
S Africa rand (com)	4.8798-4.8862
U A E dirham	5.558-5.682

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.4224-1.4234
Austria	11.31-11.32
Belgium (Com)	33.09-33.12
Canada	1.2733-1.2738
Denmark	6.1955-6.2010
France	5.4315-5.4325
Germany	1.6085-1.6090
Hong Kong	7.7290-7.7297
Ireland	1.5110-1.5120
Italy	1478.5-1479.5
Japan	111.35-111.45
Malaysia	2.5680-2.5685
Netherlands	1.8045-1.8050
Norway	6.8311-6.8341
Portugal	154.99-155.89
Singapore	1.6156-1.6162
Spain	122.65-122.80
Sweden	7.3619-7.3669
Switzerland	1.4550-1.4560

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6 Finance Hse 6½

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5¼ Low 3½ Week fixed: 5¼

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5¼; 3 mth 5⅛. Sell: 2 mth 5¼; 3 mth: 5⅛.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5¹¹⁄₁₆-5⅝	5²¹⁄₃₂-5¹⁹⁄₃₂	5²¹⁄₃₂-5¹⁹⁄₃₂	5¹³⁄₁₆-5¾	
Sterling Money Rates:	6-5⅞	6⅛-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6⅛-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6⅛-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6¼-6⅛
Interbank:	6-5⅞	6⅛-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6⅛-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6⅛-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6¼-6⅛
Overnight: open 5¾, close 3½.					
Local Authority Deps:	5⅞	n/a	5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6	6⅛
Sterling CDs:	5²⁹⁄₃₂-5²⁷⁄₃₂	5¹⁵⁄₁₆-5⅞	5¹⁵⁄₁₆-5⅞	5¹⁵⁄₁₆-5⅞	6⅛-6
Dollar CDs:	3.06-3.03	n/a	3.10-3.07	3.21-3.18	3.45-3.43
Building Society CDs:	5¹⁵⁄₁₆-5⅞	5¹⁵⁄₁₆-5⅞	6-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6⅛-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6¼-6⅛

TREASURY BILLS: Applicts: £484m allotted: £100m; Bids: £98.67% received: n/a; Last week: £98.67% received: 41%; Avge rate: £5.3346% last wk £5.2900%; Next week: £100m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	3-2¾	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-3	3⅜-3¼	3⅛-2⅝
Deutschemark:	7¹⁵⁄₁₆-7¹³⁄₁₆	7⅞-7¾	7⅞-7¾	7⅛-6¹⁵⁄₁₆	8⅛-7⅞
French Franc:	8⅛-7¹⁵⁄₁₆	7⅞-7¾	7⅞-7¾	7⅝-7½	8⅜-7⅞
Swiss Franc:	5⅛-5	5⅛-4¹⁵⁄₁₆	5-4⅞	4⅞-4¾	5⅛-4⅝
Yen:	3⅛-3	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3¼-3⅛	3⅛-2⅝

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $366.25-366.75 Close: $367.90-368.30 High: $369.10-369.60 Low: $364.50-365.00 Krugerrand: $367.00-369.00 (£237.50-239.50)

Sovereigns: Old $86.00-88.00 (£54.50-56.50) New $86.00-88.00 (£54.50-56.50)

Platinum: $382.50 (£249.65) Silver: $4.45 (£2.885) Palladium: $118.95 (£77.68)

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Jul	Oct	Jan	Puts Jul	Oct	Jan
Alld Lyon	550	18	32	40	35	43	50
(*545)	600	6	15	23	75	79	85
Argyll	300	19	27	33	13	17	23
(*312½)	330	7	16	19	32	35	39
ASDA	57	11	14	-	3	4	-
(*64½)	67	5	7½	-	6	9½	-
Boots	420	40	52	56	8½	15	21
(*447½)	460	17	31	34	28	33	39
Br Airways	280	30	41	45	6	11	16
(*303½)	300	17	28	35	13	19	25
BP	300	33	39	45	7	12	17
(*322½)	330	14	21½	28	19	25	30
Br Steel	90	11½	15	18	4½	7½	9½
(*97)	100	6½	10	13	10	12	14
C & W	700	38	55	67	29	37	45
(*715½)	750	16	32	44	60	67	72
CU	580	33	40	-	17	31	-
(*585½)	629	11	21	-	46	60	-
Courtauld	550	23	38	48	29	37	44
(*549)	600	7	19	28	66	71	75
ICI	1250	73	94½	117	45	70½	85
(*1264)	1300	47½	66½	92	69	99½	110
Kingfishr	584	36	50	-	18	28	-
(*609)	632	13	28	-	47	55	-
Land Sec	550	10	22	28	32	41	43
(*544½)	600	2	7	13	77	78	80
M & S	330	24	33	39	8	14	18
(*349)	360	8	19	25	25	29	32
Nat West	460	29	37	52	18	29	32
(*469)	500	11	20	33	42	53	55
Sainsbury	420	38	50	58	10	16	19
(*452½)	460	16	29	37	32	40	43
Shell	600	31	41	48	13½	25	30
(*611½)	650	9	16½	24	44	54	58
Smkl Bch	460	33	45	56	23	33	40
(*465½)	500	15	28	38	47	56	63
Storehse	200	14	23	28	12	15	23
(*203½)	220	7	15	19	26	30	34
Trafalgar	92	9	13	-	7	10	-
(*93)	101	5	9	-	14	16	-
Unilever	1100	26	55	70	50	51	59
(*1062½)	1150	12	32	49	90	83	90

Series		Calls Jul	Oct	Feb	Puts Jul	Oct	Feb
Grnd Met	420	18	27	36	25	32	40
(*417½)	460	5	14	21	55	59	65
Ladbroke	160	20	25	30	9	16	21
(*171½)	180	10	15	22	21	28	32
Utd Bisc	420	25	35	43	28	34	40
(*414)	460	12	20	28	56	60	66

May 14, 1993 Tot: 27986 Calls: 15745 Puts: 12241 FT-SE Calls: n/a Puts: n/a

*Underlying security price.

Series		Calls May	Aug	Nov	Puts May	Aug	Nov
BAA	750	7	27	44	9	34	45
(*748½)	800	1	11	24	55	70	75
BAT Ind	850	26	60	74	4½	26	48
(*868½)	900	3½	34	51	33	53	77
BTR	550	40	52	59	1	7½	17
(*586½)	600	1½	21	31	15	28	40
Br Aero	300	16	40	54	4½	25	35
(*312½)	330	2½	21½	30½	22	42	54½
Br Telcm	390	22	33	37	1	8	17
(*414½)	420	2	16	22	12	21	32
Cadbury	420	37	49	57	1	6½	14
(*456)	460	3	23	34	9	22	30
Guinness	460	22	40	51	3½	14	24
(*478½)	500	1½	19	31	25	35	44
GEC	300	14	22	26	1	10	15
(*316)	330	1	7	13	18½	28	32
Hanson	220	20½	24	28	1	4	8
(*241½)	240	3½	11	16	2½	10½	16
LASMO	140	12	22	29	1½	9	14
(*152½)	160	2	12	19	11	19	25
Lucas	140	3	14	18	4	12	19
(*139)	160	1½	6	10	22	25	31
Pilkingtn	120	9	14	18	3	7½	11
(*128)	130	2½	9	13	4½	14	16
Prudential	300	20	29	35	1	6½	13
(*319)	330	1	13	19	13	20	28
Redland	500	36	49	58	20	34	43
(*508½)	550	15	27	36	51	64	68
Royal Ins	300	23	31	38	11	17	21
(*306½)	330	10	17	24	28	34	38
Tesco	200	15	23	28	1	6	11
(*216)	220	3	12	17	10	14	20
Thames W	500	5	17	24	6½	30	37
(*497)	550	1½	2½	8	55	70	73
Vodafone	420	2½	21	34	9	26	34
(*414)	460	1	8	19	49	55	61
Williams	300	37	44	49	5½	13	15
(*326½)	330	18	26	33	17	25	28

FT-SE INDEX (*2849)

	2700	2750	2800	2850	2900	2950
Calls						
May	160	106	60	22	5	2½
Jun	169	125	87	52	30	14
Jul	187	146	111	80	53	34
Aug	207	171	133	103	75	57
Dec	268	-	198	-	140	-
Puts						
May	1½	2	4	15	54	104
Jun	8	15	23	43	70	110
Jul	19	25	42	60	88	121
Aug	29	44	59	82	102	135
Dec	74	-	92	-	146	-

Series		Calls Jun	Sep	Dec	Puts Jun	Sep	Dec
Abby Nat	390	30	40	49	4½	14	18
(*414)	420	11	22	32	16	28	33
Amstrad	30	4½	6½	8	2	3½	4
(*33)	35	2	4	6	4½	6½	7
Barclays	420	21	34	44	8½	21	30
(*434½)	460	5	16	26	34	40	52
Blue Circ	240	23	32	38	5	12	19
(*258)	260	10	22	29	13	22	29
Br Gas	280	19	27	32	3	7½	14
(*295)	300	7	15	21	11	16	22
	330	1½	6	9½	38	39	44
Dixons	200	20	27	34	4½	13	19
(*213½)	220	10	17	25	12	23	30
Forte	180	14	23	28	4½	10	14
(*191)	200	5	14	18	15	21	26
Glaxo	550	96	115	122	2½	12	25
(*642½)	600	53	79	90	10	29	44
	650	21	50	65	30	48	70
HSBC	600	34	56	73	19	36	49
(*614)	650	10	34	52	48	65	76
Hillsdwn	140	17	24	28	3	7	11
(*153½)	160	5½	12	17	12	17	21
Lonrho	110	11½	16½	21	4	10	13
(*117½)	120	6½	12½	17	9	15½	19
Reuter	1250	54	95	128	27	57	77
(*1265)	1300	27	67	99	54	82	105
R-Royce	130	21	26	29	2½	6	10
(*148)	140	13	19	24	5	9½	13½
Sears	100	6	10½	14	4	6	9
(*102)	110	2½	6	8½	10½	13	16
Tarmac	130	12	18	23	5	9	15
(*136½)	140	7	14	19	11	16	20
Thrn Emi	800	49	64	76	6½	27	37
(*836½)	850	18	35	50	26	57	65
Tomkins	220	10	18	23	7	14	17
(*223)	240	3	8	14	21	27	30
TSB	180	8	14	18	7	12	17
(*181)	200	2½	6½	11	22	27	30
Wellcome	700	60	91	108	17	33	50
(*737½)	750	30	62	83	35	54	74

Series		Calls Jul	Oct	Dec	Puts Jul	Oct	Dec
Fisons	160	23	30	35	8½	15	17
(*170)	180	13	22	24	19	26	30

Series		Calls May	Aug	Nov	Puts May	Aug	Nov
Eastrn Elc	460	5	21	38	8	30	35
(*455½)	500	1	7	13½	46	60	64

Series		Calls Jun	Sep	Dec	Puts Jun	Sep	Dec
Natl Pwr	300	25	34	42	3	8½	13
(*321½)	330	7	17	25	16	22	25
Scot Pwr	310	8	13½	19	9	21	22
(*308)	330	2	7	11	25	35	36

COMMODITIES

GNI REPORT: Brazilian government officials applauded the Columbian attempt to put a floor to coffee prices, but stopped short of agreeing to similar measures. The reluctance stems from Brazil's need to sell its 1993/94 harvest over the next few months, where as Columbia will have little significant selling to do until next winter.

LONDON FOX

COCOA

May	656-650	Jul	761-760
Jul	677-676	Sep	776-770
Sep	693-692	Dec	802-797
Dec	711-710	Mar	825-823
Mar	732-731		
May	747-746	Volume:	4575

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

May	881-873	Jan	901-896
Jul	887-885	Mar	908-906
Sep	887-885	May	918-912
Nov	893-890	Volume:	907

RAW SUGAR (FOB)

C Czarnikow		Dec	unq
Spot: unq		Mar	—
May	unq	May	—
Aug	—	Aug	—
Oct	—	Volume:	0

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Mar	304.0-02.5
Spot: 306.7		May	306.0-04.1
Aug	313.5-13.0	Aug	310.4-07.6
Oct	307.0-06.0	Oct	304.4-98.6
Dec	306.0-03.1	Volume:	898

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on May 14

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	90.63	134.06	140.23
(+/-)	-0.76	-0.04	+1.62
Eng/Wales:	90.83	134.11	140.47
(+/-)	-0.76	-0.48	+2.05
(%)	+6.9	+12.0	-1.3
Scotland:	n/a	132.11	139.50
(+/-)	n/a	-4.83	-0.32
(%)	n/a	-61.9	-3.9

LONDON MEAT FUTURES

Live Pig (p/kg)

	Open	Close		Open	Close
May	114.9	115.0	Jul	103.0	103.0
Jun	108.0	108.5	Volume: 52		

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)

May	143.00
Jun	142.50
Sep	108.00
Nov	109.85
Jan	112.60
Volume:	355

BARLEY (close £/t)

May	136.25
Sep	106.50
Nov	109.25
Jan	111.50
Mar	113.75
Volume:	17

HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t)

Jun	143.30
Aug	142.50
Oct	145.50
Dec	148.80
Feb	unq
Volume:	0

POTATO

(£/t)	Open	Close
Nov	unq	60.0
Apr	96.1	98.6
May	100.0	103.5
Volume: 124		

RUBBER No 1 RSS Cif (p/kg)

Jun 57.25-57.75

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm): Products led a massive sell-off. Gasoline has not met demand and fuel is overflowing.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.35	-0.35
Brent 15 day (Jun)	18.55	-0.35
Brent 15 day (Jul)	18.45	-0.40
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	19.50	-0.55
W Texas Intermediate (Jul)	19.80	-0.50

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	212 (-1)	214 (-1)
Gasoil EEC	172 (-3)	173 (-3)
Non EEC 1H Jun	171 (-3)	172 (-3)
Non EEC 1H Jul	172 (-3)	173 (-3)
3.5 Fuel Oil	70 (-2)	72 (-1)
Naphtha	183 (-3)	185 (-3)

IPE FUTURES GNI Ltd

GAS OIL

Jun	170.00-70.25	Sep	174.50-74.75
Jul	170.50-70.75	Oct	177.25-77.50
Aug	172.50-73.00	Nov	179.50-80.00
		Vol:	20051

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jun	18.53-18.55	Sep	18.59-18.63
Jul	18.43-18.45	Oct	18.62-18.69
Aug	18.53-18.56	Vol:	44738

UNLEADED GASOLINE

May	unq	Aug	203.00 SLR
Jun	201.00-01.50	Sep	n/a
Jul	199.75-01.50	Vol:	411

BIFFEX GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
May 93	1610	1605	1610
Jun 93	1505	1490	1501
Jul 93	1350	1340	1350
Oct 93	1425	1420	1425

Vol: 388 lots. Open int'st: 3047 Index 1585 +4

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE (Rudolf Wolff)

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A (£/tonne)	1211.5-1212.5	1228.5-1229.0	1915150
Lead (£/tonne)	266.00-266.50	275.50-275.75	53050
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	981.00-982.00	1000.0-1000.5	315475
Tin ($/tonne)	5540.0-5541.0	5600.0-5605.0	5560
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1126.5-1127.0	1148.5-1149.0	951425
Nickel ($/tonne)	5775.0-5785.0	5843.0-5845.0	39312

مكتبة الأجيال

An eight by Such is bonus for Essex

BY IVO TENNANT

THE OVAL (second day of four): Surrey, with seven first-innings wickets in hand, are 285 runs behind Essex

IN THIS temperate summer one of the numerous arguments in favour of four-day cricket has not had to be raised. Yesterday, for just about the first time this season, it rained. The joy, at least for Essex, is that two days of this important match still remain.

So there is no need of joke bowling, although that would not necessarily appear to be so from a glance at the scorecard. Pringle, as was to be expected, contributed considerably to the 111 runs Essex added to their first-innings in the morning. So, quite unexpectedly, did Such.

It was not only that his innings of 25 propelled his county to a total of 418. One blow, a six driven high over long-on off Benjamin, meant he became the first batsman to score eight runs in a single shot under the new regulations whereby a no-ball counts for two runs.

They remember here that Percy Fender once gained eight through an all-run four and four overthrows, but this was something else. The ball was struck on the up, a shot that Such will remember forever. For by his own admission, Such can hardly bat. It was only the second six of his 11-year career.

Other than that and Pringle's half-century, the feature of the morning's cricket was some more decidedly sharp bowling by Waqar Younis.

It was not only that Surrey had erred by putting Essex in. They now had to bat in light that was rarely better than opaque. Darren Bicknell, very much in form, progressed pleasantly enough until he was taken at cover, cutting too uppishly.

There were runs, too, for Stewart before he was also unable to control an attacking shot. When Lynch was run out by the substitute, Tennant, from mid-on, this was through chancing a single beyond his patched-up knees. When the rain arrived, Surrey still needed 136 to avoid following on.



HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Dismissive power: Hayden, the talented young Australian, pulls Giddins to the boundary in the match against Sussex at Hove yesterday

Caddick bewilders Lancashire

BY MICHAEL HENDERSON

TAUNTON: Somerset (20pts) beat Lancashire (5) by 15 runs

THE mood outside the Taunton pavilion shortly after 5.30 last night must have been similar to the old public executions in Newgate. That is more or less what the lucky few had just witnessed as Somerset, bowled out in their second innings for 114, then dismissed Lancashire for 72 to win an astonishing match by 15 runs.

Whatever else may be said about the cricket played over the last two days, nobody is likely to forget it. Roy Palmer, who has been on the umpires' list for 14 seasons and awarded five of the leg-before decisions here, confessed he had never seen a game like it.

Palmer and Chris Balderstone will not report the pitch despite a day in which 26 wickets fell for 266 runs. Although it was green, they considered it made for an excellent match, preferring instead to commend the bowlers and catchers.

As for the bowling, which constituted a match within a match, Andrew Caddick beat Phillip DeFreitas by the shortest of heads. By taking nine for 32 in 67 balls, he achieved a career-best performance he will do very well to emulate. Lancashire were one for four, eight for five and 16 for six before some thumping from Mike Watkinson gave them hope of victory.

Having lifted Mushtaq over square leg for six, Watkinson played on to Caddick, who confirmed Somerset's win when he pinned Martin leg-before in his following over. His match figures, 12 for 120, were marginally cheaper than the dozen DeFreitas took. What does one tell a man who has bowled so nobly and lost?

Even the most cider-touched Somerset member could not have imagined that the last-wicket frolic of 42 between Andre Van Troost and Harvey Trump would supply the decisive tilt. As Van Troost swayed to the leg and thrashed two sixes off Martin in his rustic 35, everyone roared, taking it to be an act of defiance rather than a strategy on which victory could be built.

Caddick required all of two balls to adjust the frame. Mendis owed his team-mates 33 runs when he missed Lathwell on the first day and now, when they needed them, he presented Harden with such a simple catch they must have thought of preparing a noose for his return.

By changing to the river end, from which DeFreitas had done his damage, Caddick found greater movement off the pitch. Before tea, Atherton and Hegg went to neat slip catches off successive balls, Lloyd was leg-before and Fairbrother nicked a drive. With Fairbrother struggling with a hamstring injury, England have placed Mark Ramprakash, of Middlesex, on stand-by for the one-day series against Australia.

Lancashire were just coming around when Caddick instinctively put up his hands to intercept Wasim's firm return drive. Had he grassed it, he would have been forgiven. On his day of days, it stuck.

After their stupendous victories against Durham and Surrey this week, Lancastrians have become familiar with such dramatic days. Somerset have now won two championship matches and can march on knowing that if they can win games from such positions, nothing is too improbable.

Batting strength poses problems for Australia

BY ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

HOVE (second day of three): the Australians, with seven first-innings wickets standing, are 47 runs behind Sussex

THERE is not much depth to the Australians' bowling, but their batting presents problems of an entirely different type. Five worthy candidates are scrapping over three vacancies in the top order and surprises may be in store.

Yesterday, in their penultimate first-class fixture before the international matches begin, the young bloods had their say. Matt Hayden, Michael Slater and Damien Martyn all made accomplished half-centuries.

The omens are grim for Mark Waugh, who missed this game and is now odds-on to miss the first Test, which starts on June 2. Even Mark Taylor no longer has a secure tenancy.

Such threats will seem sacrilegious to an English audience, reared on Taylor's 839-run aggregate in the 1989 series and three seasons of batting mayhem by Waugh for Essex. But sentiment plays no part in Australian selection and if form is the sole criterion, it will be an excitingly youthful side that takes on England next month.

Realistically, Slater and Hayden know the team is not yet big enough for both of them. Taylor will start the series, at least, but the identity of his opening partner remains a competitive issue and most judges will have scored yesterday's round level.

Without the rested Franklyn Stephenson, Sussex's seam attack is mundane, but Slater and Hayden, in their individual ways, made it look sacrificial. Hayden drives mightily off front and back foot while Slater is constant motion, his on-driving a delight.

The first over of the innings cost 13 and 71 came from 15 overs before Ian Salisbury was summoned. He did not immediately impose himself; even the best leg-spinners seldom do. His second over contained a high full toss and a rank long hop. Hayden scored 13.

In his next over, Hayden reached 50, though with an edged four, and Salisbury soon got his man, luring Hayden down and beating him in flight. He might have added Slater, Alan Wells dropping a sharp slip catch, and his bowling either side of lunch commanded respect.

Martyn, whose opportunities have been limited, was promoted to No 3 and played with conspicuous discipline for three hours until rain cut two hours off the day.

Along the way he lost Slater, dragging on a drive against Giddins, and Allan Border, run out attempting a second to deep cover. The captain had looked in ominous form and another failure to convert it into a big score will have done little for his peace of mind.

SPORT IN BRIEF

World body backs England's stand

A SIX-MONTH long controversy appears to be over with the decision, made yesterday, that, at last, the use of liquid glues on table tennis bats is to be banned. This move, by the general council of the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF), came too late to take effect during the world championships being held in Gothenberg and will not come into force until September 1 (Richard Eaton writes).

The decision was taken entirely on health grounds, although the estimated 20 per cent reduction in the speed of the ball and the consequent changes in the tactical and technical character of the game at top level, may well provide the most radical transformation since the sandwich bat rule of 1959.

The ITTF move justifies the stand by the governing body of the game in England, the only country at the world championships to forbid its players from using substances which have now been declared both illegal and dangerous.

Close's title challenge

BOXING: Chris Eubank is unlikely to slip up when he defends his World Boxing Organisation super-middleweight title against Ray Close, of Belfast, in Glasgow tonight (Srikumar Sen writes). Although he has the stamina to put the champion under pressure, Close, who won the European title by stopping Vincenzo Nardiello, of Italy, in nine rounds, has not got the power to worry Eubank. The champion, on the other hand, has the punch to knock Close out and will not want any mishaps, with perhaps £1 million waiting to be made from an rematch with Nigel Benn in the autumn.

Johnson promoted

FOOTBALL: Gary Johnson has been appointed to manage Cambridge United, who parted company with Ian Atkins on Thursday following their relegation to the second division. Johnson, the former youth team manager, was passed over when Atkins was given the job in December. Lee Chapman, Leeds United's top scorer for the last three seasons, is one of three players being released by the club. Chapman was put up for sale yesterday, along with Chris Whyte, a defender, and Carl Shutt, a striker, both members of the squad that won the title last year.

Boardman returns

CYCLING: Chris Boardman returns to track competition tomorrow for the first time since winning the 4,000 metres Olympic pursuit title last July. He leads the North Wirral-Kodak team in a special 3,800 metres challenge match against Team Haverhill, the British champions, at Kirkby stadium. It marks the start of an intensive four days of riding for Boardman, who leaves immediately after the team pursuit for France, where he will spend two days testing three different makes of bike for his attempt on the world one-hour record in late June or early July.

Lithuania pick Taylor

SWIMMING: Mark Taylor, the American who is in charge of the Waltham Forest Gators club, has been appointed chief coach to the Lithuania team for the European championships at Sheffield in August. The appointment follows his success in developing the London borough team. Taylor is attempting to arrange training camps at the Waltham Forest College pool for the Lithuanians, several of whom are ranked among the world's top 30, before the championships. He is taking a small team to the Speedo International at Lecco, in northern Italy, this weekend.

Lake beaten in final



TENNIS: Valda Lake, right, the top seed, was beaten in straight sets by Marianne Vallin, 20, from Sweden, in the final of the LTA satellite tournament at Basingstoke yesterday. The match was moved indoors because of rain and Lake went down 6-2, 7-6. The British player saved a set point in the second set and forced a tie-break before the young Swede's ground strokes earned victory.

Zarak meets Dittmar

SQUASH: Zarak Jahan, the dynamic Pakistani who upset the seedings at the British Open championship in London last month, has set the scene for another surprise in the Brazilian Classic in Rio de Janeiro. Zarak's first-round defeat of Gary Waite, the Canadian No 1, earned him a meeting with Chris Dittmar, of Australia, the No 2 seed. Whoever reaches the quarter-final is likely to be exhausted because of the 30°C temperatures. The last time the pair met, in New York last month, Dittmar won a tight, five-game encounter.

Phillips sets hot pace

GOLF: Van Phillips led the field with a 67 in the first round of the English amateur open strokeplay championship for the Brabazon Trophy at Stoneham yesterday. Phillips, who recently won the Berkshire Trophy by eight shots, is 21 and a devotee of the Gary Player school of never-say-die golf. He admitted that he did not strike the ball well yesterday, but that did not prevent him from producing seven birdies to set against two shots dropped to par. Phillips owed his score principally to four birdies from the 12th.

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Cincinnati Reds 7, San Diego Padres 1. St Louis Cardinals 0, New York Mets 4: Colorado Rockies 8, San Francisco Giants 13; Montreal Expos, 5 Florida Marlins 4.

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Cleveland Indians 3, Kansas City Royals 7. Oakland Athletics 5, Texas Rangers 3. New York Yankees 4, Milwaukee Brewers 2; Toronto Blue Jays 6, Detroit Tigers 5

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Play-offs: Eastern Conference: Second round: Chicago Bulls 104, Cleveland Cavaliers 85 (Chicago lead best-of-seven series, 2-0) Western Conference: Second round: Phoenix Suns 109, San Antonio Spurs 103 (Phoenix lead, 2-0).

BOXING

TAMPERE, Finland: World amateur championships: Semi-finals: Light-flyweight: N Munchian (Arm) bt A Guandado (US), pts. D Petrov (Bul) bt E-S Tsogtbargal (Mong), pts. Bantamweight: A Christov (Bul) bt I Guler (Tur), pts. J Casamayor (Cuba) bt V Antonov (Russ), pts. Lightweight: D Ausan (Cuba) wo T Rafael (Slovakia), scr; L Nicholson (US) bt V Nistor (Rom), pts. Welterweight: J Hernandez (Cuba) bt A Oto (Ger), pts; V Karpaczauskas (Lith) bt S Gorodnichev (Ukr), pts. Middleweight: A Hernandez (Cuba) bt R Jovel (Holl), pts, A Kuloglu (Tur) bt V Zhirov (Kaz), pts. Heavyweight: F Savon (Cuba) bt S Allouins (Fr), rsc 2nd, G Kandelaki (Geo) bt A Avetakian (Arm), pts

CYCLING

TOUR OF SPAIN: Eighteenth stage (Cangas de Onis to Gijon, 170.4km): 1, S Ouchekkov (Ukr), 4hr 21min 10sec; 2, P Meinert (Den), at 2sec; 3, A Ballo (It), at 26; 4, A Sailov (Ukr), at 55; 5, O Rodrigues (Por); 6, T Cordes (Holl), both same time. British: 51, R Millar, at 8min 55sec. Overall: 1, T Rominger (Swtz), 83hr 48min 38sec; 2, A Zuelle (Swtz), at 33sec; 3, L Cubino (Sp), at 3min 40sec; 4, G Rincon (Col), at 5:06; 5, J Montoya (Sp), at 5:42; 6, P Delgado (Sp), at 7:22. British: 15, Millar, at 21:31.

HOT SPRINGS, Virginia: Tour Dupont: Eighth stage (Lynchburg to The Homestead, 181.9km): 1, D Rayner (GB), 4hr 57min 15sec, 2, E Dekker (Holl); 3, M Elliott (GB); 4, B Dennis (Aus); 5, F Boden (Ger), all same time. Overall: 1, R Alcala (Mex), 31hr 36min 06sec; 2, L Armstrong (US), at 23sec; 3, B Bowen (US), at 1min 02sec; 4, M Engleman (US), at 1.07; 5, Elliott, at 1:11

FOOTBALL

FA YOUTH CUP: Final: Second leg: Leeds United 2, Manchester United 1 (Leeds win 4-1 on agg).

WORLD CUP: Europe: Group six: Finland 3, Austria 1 Asian zone: First round: Group D: S Korea 3, India 0; Lebanon 0, Bahrain 0.

GREEK CUP: Final: Panathinaikos 1, Olympiakos 0.

GOLF

IRVING, Texas: Byron Nelson Classic: Leading first-round scores (US unless stated): 65: D Foreman, R Beiersdorf. 66: R Floyd, H Irwin, H Twitty. 67: M Calcavecchia, J Cook, N Henke, D Tindar, L Clements. 68: T Watson, D Love, D Frost (SA), D A Weibring, L Roberts, L Janker, D Tewell, G Twiggs, N Price (Zim).

WILMINGTON, Delaware: McDonald's women's championship: Leading first-round scores (US unless stated): 66: G Graham (Can), L Davies (GB). 69: P Sheehan, L Merten, L Walters (Can). 69: S Steinhauer, J Inkster, R Hood. 70: D Wilkins, V Skinner, D Mochrie, D Lofland-Dormann, D Eggeling, J Carner, A Dibos, D Baldwin. 71: J Sams, J Pitcock, C Pierce (GB), L Neumann (Swe), M Mellon, E King, C Johnson

STONEHAM, Southampton: English Amateur Open strokeplay championship for Brabazon Trophy: First round: Leading scores: 67: V Phillips (Stoke Poges), 69: I Hardy (Hunstanton), R Hussey (West Essex) 70: J Wilshire (Hindhead), M Blackey (Hayling), R Bland (Bramshott Hill), A Haworth (Stoneham), L Ball (Glen Gorse) 71: S Webster (Amerstone), N van Hoogstegen (Bell), P Streeter (Sleaford), D Robertson (Cochrane Castle), S Davis (Kedleston Park), C Cevaer (France), C Waris (Hawkstone Park), T Marwick (Cornwall), J Barnes (Brokenhurst Manor)

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE (NHL): Stanley Cup: Play-offs: Norris division finals: St Louis Blues 2, Toronto Maple Leafs 1 (best-of-seven series tied, 3-3). Smythe division finals: Los Angeles Kings 5, Vancouver Canucks 3 (Los Angeles win series, 4-2).

REAL TENNIS

QUEEN'S CLUB: Laurens-Perrier Masters (British unless stated): Group I: R Fahey (Aus) bt M Devine, 6-5, 5-6, 4-6, 6-4, 6-4; L Deuchar (Aus) bt Devine, 6-1, 6-2, 3-0, ret; J Howell bt Fahey, 4-6, 4-6, 6-2, 6-4, 6-5. Group II: C Bray bt C Ronaldson, 6-3, 4-6, 6-3, 6-1; J Snow bt Ronaldson, 6-4, 6-1, 6-1, 6-3, 6-1; J Snow bt Gooding, 6-4, 6-3, 6-3; 6-1; C Bray bt M Gooding, 6-4, 6-3, 6-3; Snow bt Bray, 6-2, 4-6, 6-3, 5-6, 8-4.

SQUASH

RIO DE JANEIRO: Brazilian Classic: First round: P Whitlock (Eng) bt M Carlyon (Aus), 15-11, 15-6, 15-7; Jansher Khan (Pak) bt D Harris (Eng), 15-8, 15-0, 15-10; S Parke (Eng) bt D Ryan (Ire), 15-7, 9-15, 15-9, 15-8; R Eyles (Aus) bt M de Oliveira (Br), 15-4, 15-13, 15-4; C Walker (Eng) bt J Power (Can), 15-7, 14-15, 15-9, 15-8; B Martin (Aus) bt J Bonetat (Fr), 15-12, 15-12, 15-13.

TABLE TENNIS

GOTHENBURG: World team championships: Men: First round: Group A: China bt Belgium, 3-0, Poland bt United States, 3-0; South Korea bt Austria, 3-0 Group B: Sweden bt N Korea, 3-1; Germany bt Russia, 3-0; France bt Italy, 3-0; Czech Rep bt Canada, 3-2. Group C: Hungary bt Thailand, 3-0; Wales bt Uzbekistan, 3-0. Group E: Slovakia bt Egypt, 3-0. Group F: Taiwan bt Scotland, 3-0; Argentina bt Kuwait, 3-0. Group G: Brazil bt Portugal, 3-1; Ukraine bt Jordan, 3-0. Group H: Luxembourg bt Bulgaria, 3-0; Ecuador wo Kenya, scr. Group J: Trinidad and Tobago bt Chile, 3-2; Denmark wo Iran, scr. Group K: Spain bt New Zealand, 3-2; Seychelles wo Mongolia, scr. Group L: Hong Kong bt Nigeria, 3-1; Saudi Arabia bt Tahiti, 3-0 Group M: Greece bt India, 3-1; Bosnia-Herzegovina bt Guatemala, 3-1. Group N: Turkey bt Switzerland, 3-1; Kazakhstan bt Barbados, 3-0. Group P: Finland bt Pakistan, 3-0; Sri Lanka bt South Africa, 3-2. Group Q: Romania bt Croatia, 3-2; Colombia wo El Salvador, scr. Group R: Indonesia bt Ireland, 3-0; Malta bt Algeria, 3-2. Group S: Norway bt Holland, 3-1; Estonia bt Israel, 3-1; Israel bt Norway, 3-0; Estonia bt Holland, 3-0. Group T: Slovenia bt Australia, 3-0; Ghana bt Iceland, 3-2. Play-offs for last two quarter-final places: Group one: First round: Hungary bt Slovenia, 3-0; Hong Kong bt Spain, 3-1, Holland bt Estonia, 3-1; Denmark bt Greece, 3-0.

Women: First round: Group A: China bt North Korea, 3-0. Group B: England bt France, 3-0; S Korea bt Hong Kong, 3-0; Russia bt Slovakia, 3-0; Japan bt Finland, 3-0. Group G: Australia bt Brazil, 3-1; Colombia bt Cyprus, 3-1; Uzbekistan wo Guatemala, scr; South Africa bt Trinidad and Tobago, 3-1. Group H: Indonesia bt Poland, 3-1, Wales bt Scotland, 3-1; Armenia wo Uganda, scr. Group J: Austria bt India, 3-1; Egypt bt Switzerland, 3-2; Estonia wo Tanzania, scr. Group K: Belgium bt Luxembourg, 3-1; Pakistan bt Norway, 3-0; Lithuania bt Ukraine, 3-1. Play-offs for last quarter-final places: Group 1A: First round: Croatia bt Lithuania, 3-2; Taiwan bt India, 3-0. Second round: Taiwan bt Croatia 3-0. Group 1B: First round: Holland bt Armenia, 3-0; Czech Republic bt Australia, 3-1. Second round: Holland bt Czech Republic, 3-0.

TENNIS

BERLIN: German women's open: Third round: S Schultz (Holl) bt J Capriati (US), 6-2, 5-7, 6-4, M Maleeva (Bul) bt G Helgeson (US), 7-5, 6-1; C Martinez (Sp) bt M Babel (Ger), 6-1, 6-3; G Sabatini (Arg) bt S Cecchini (It), 6-0, 6-3. Quarter-finals: S Graf (Ger) bt Maleeva, 6-2, 6-3; M J Fernandez (US) bt N Tauziat (Fr), 6-2, 6-3. Martinez bt Schultz, 6-1, 6-0; Sabatini bt A Huber (Ger), 7-5, 6-1.

CORAL SPRINGS, Florida: Men's tournament: Second round (US unless stated): W Masur (Aus) bt G Schaller (Austria), 6-4, 4-6, 6-3; T Martin bt T Carbonell (Sp), 6-2, 6-1; A Krickstein bt J Stark, 6-2, 6-4; P McEnroe bt J Terango, 6-1, 6-4; B Shelton bt L Herrera (Mex), 7-5, 6-1.

BASINGSTOKE: LTA satellite tournament: Men: Singles: Final: P Kilderry (Aus) bt B Larkham (Aus), 6-4, 5-7, 6-4. Women: Singles: Final: M Vallin (Swe) bt V Lake (Devon), 6-2, 7-6. Doubles: Final: R Mewdsley (Aus) and Lake bt S Haas (Swe) and L Horne (SA), 3-6, 6-4, 6-1.

VOLLEYBALL

MEN'S CHALLENGE MATCHES: Australia bt Britain, 15-8, 15-1, 15-13 (in Brixton); 15-10, 15-5, 15-5 (in Canterbury).

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Britannic Assurance county championship

Somerset v Lancashire

TAUNTON (second day of four): Somerset (20pts) beat Lancashire (5) by 15 runs

SOMERSET: First Innings 195 (M N Lathwell 71; P A J DeFreitas 7-76)

Second Innings

M N Lathwell c Hegg b Wasim	5
M Trescothick c Hegg b DeFreitas	3
R J Harden b DeFreitas	18
C J Tavare c Atherton b DeFreitas	3
N A Folland c Atherton b Wasim	5
N D Burns b Wasim	3
G D Rose lbw b Wasim	13
A R Caddick low b DeFreitas	9
Mushtaq Ahmed low b DeFreitas	4
H R J Trump not out	3
A P van Troost c DeFreitas b Martin	35
Extras (lb 2, nb 10)	12
Total	114

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-9, 2-9, 3-16, 4-31, 5-41, 6-49, 7-65, 8-66, 9-72

BOWLING: DeFreitas 17-2-55-5; Wasim Akram 18-5-42-4; Martin 12-0-15-1.

LANCASHIRE: First Innings

G D Mendis b Mushtaq	37
M A Atherton lbw b Rose	21
N J Speak b Rose	58
G D Lloyd c Burns b Caddick	16
†W K Hegg c Tavare b Mushtaq	5
Wasim Akram c Folland b Mushtaq	39
*N H Fairbrother b Rose	0
M Watkinson c Burns b Caddick	21
P A J DeFreitas c Folland b Mushtaq	6
P J Martin not out	8
A A Barnett lbw b Caddick	0
Extras (lb 10, w 1, nb 2)	13
Total (58.2 overs)	222

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-50, 2-76, 3-117, 4-130, 5-153, 6-153, 7-204, 8-204, 9-220.

BOWLING: Caddick 23.2-4-88-3; van Troost 8-2-24-0; Rose 13-2-60-3; Mushtaq Ahmed 14-2-40-4.

Second Innings

G D Mendis c Harden b Caddick	0
M A Atherton c Tavare b Caddick	0
N J Speak lbw b Mushtaq	1
G D Lloyd lbw b Caddick	5
W K Hegg c Harden b Caddick	0
Wasim Akram c and b Caddick	11
N H Fairbrother c Burns b Caddick	5
M Watkinson b Caddick	39
P A J DeFreitas c Folland b Caddick	0
P J Martin lbw b Caddick	5
Extras (lb 1)	1
Total	72

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-1, 3-1, 4-1, 5-8, 6-16, 7-39, 8-39, 9-55.

BOWLING: Caddick 11.1-2-32-6; Mushtaq Ahmed 11-3-39-1.

Umpires: J C Balderstone and R Palmer.

Surrey v Essex

THE OVAL (second day of four): Surrey, with seven first-innings wickets in hand, need 135 runs to avoid the follow-on against Essex

ESSEX: First Innings

*G A Gooch c Kersey b Waqar	79
J P Stephenson lbw b M P Bicknell	15
P J Prichard c Kersey b Thorpe	26
Salim Malik c Waqar b Benjamin	41
N Hussain lbw b Thorpe	41
J J B Lewis c Kersey b Waqar	56
†M A Garnham st Kersey b Kendrick	33
D R Pringle not out	52
N A Foster c Kersey b Benjamin	19
M C Ilott b Waqar	5
P M Such c Brown b M P Bicknell	25
Extras (lb 1, lb 8, nb 16)	25
Total	418

Score at 120 overs: 350-7.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-46, 2-118, 3-162, 4-190, 5-231, 6-302, 7-329, 8-372, 9-379.

BOWLING: Waqar Younis 34-9-117-3; M P Bicknell 38.3-10-98-2; Benjamin 35-5-111-2; Kendrick 19-13-30-1; Thorpe 13-1-53-2.

SURREY: First Innings

D J Bicknell c Salim b Ilott	23
*A J Stewart c Such b Ilott	48
G P Thorpe not out	39
M A Lynch run out	8
D M Ward not out	9
Extras (lb 6)	6
Total (3 wkts, 43 overs)	133

Bonus points: Surrey 3, Essex 5.

Umpires: G I Burgess and J W Holder.

Kent v Warwickshire

CANTERBURY (second day of four): Warwickshire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 137 runs ahead of Kent

WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings

A J Moles c Marsh b Davis	55
R G Twose c Davis b Hooper	24
J D Ratcliffe c Taylor b Headley	25
D P Ostler c Cowdrey b Davis	47
T L Penney c Marsh b McCague	57
*D A Reeve c Marsh b Davis	44
†M Burns low b McCague	0
N M K Smith c Marsh b McCague	2
G C Small b Iggleden	4
A F Giles b Hooper	23
T A Munton not out	0
Extras (b 3, lb 9, nb 2)	14
Total	305

Score at 120 overs: 260-7.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-64, 2-109, 3-122, 4-207, 5-241, 6-241, 7-255, 8-260, 9-305.

BOWLING: Iggleden 23-5-43-1; McCague 25-5-62-3, Headley 22-8-50-1, Hooper 18.2-2-49-2; Davis 32-9-54-3; Fleming 19-3-35-0.

Second Innings

A J Moles not out	8
R G Twose not out	1
Extras	0
Total (no wkt)	9

KENT: First Innings

T R Ward c Smith b Small	8
*M R Benson c Burns b Reeve	12
N R Taylor c Burns b Munton	23
C L Hooper c Penney b Munton	75
G R Cowdrey c Burns b Munton	2
M V Fleming low b Munton	21
S A Marsh c Reeve b Munton	0
†D W Headley c Burns b Munton	3
R P Davis c Ostler b Munton	0
M J McCague not out	22
A P Iggleden c Reeve b Giles	3
Extras (lb 6, nb 2)	8
Total (75.3 overs)	177

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10, 2-38, 3-79, 4-84, 5-116, 6-122, 7-132, 8-142, 9-148.

BOWLING: Small 12-5-12-1, Munton 22-5-41-7; Giles 12.3-2-33-1; Smith 13-3-51-0; Reeve 15-9-23-1; Twose 1-0-1-0.

Bonus points: Kent 3, Warwickshire 6.

Umpires: B Dudleston and G Sharp.

Middlesex v Nottinghamshire

LORD'S (second day of four): Nottinghamshire, with seven first-innings wickets in hand, are 85 runs behind Middlesex

MIDDLESEX: First Innings 281 (M A Roseberry 79 not out, M A Feltham 73; C L Cairns 5-58)

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings

P R Pollard c Carr b Emburey	70
D W Randall lbw b Fraser	1
*R T Robinson c Tufnell b Emburey	112
P Johnson not out	3
M A Crawley not out	8
Extras (lb 5, nb 2)	7
Total (3 wkts, 83 overs)	196

C L Cairns, C C Lewis, G W Mike, †B N French, R A Pick and J A Afford to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-14, 2-184, 3-187

Bonus points: Middlesex 3, Nottinghamshire 4.

Umpires: R Julian and P Willey.

Derbyshire v Glamorgan

DERBY (second day of four): Derbyshire, with one first-innings wicket in hand, are 42 runs behind Glamorgan

GLAMORGAN: First Innings 320 (I V A Richards 86; S J Base 4-53)

DERBYSHIRE: First Innings

*K J Barnett b Basten	13
P D Bowler c Richards b Lefebvre	96
J E Morris low b Dale	51
C J Adams b Dale	24
T J G O'Gorman c sub b Dale	14
F A Griffith c Richards b Lefebvre	4
†K M Krikken c Metson b Watkin	29
D G Cork not out	34
A E Warner b Croft	6
S J Base c Metson b Watkin	0
Extras (lb 7)	7
Total (9 wkts, 77 overs)	278

D E Malcolm to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-21, 2-137, 3-169, 4-187, 5-201, 6-208, 7-270, 8-277, 9-278

Bonus points: Derbyshire 6, Glamorgan 7

Umpires: D J Constant and N T Plews

No play yesterday

STOCKTON-ON-TEES: Hampshire 192 for 3 (V P Terry 82 not out, T C Middleton 65) v Durham.

BRADFORD: Worcestershire 187 for 7 v Yorkshire.

Tetley Bitter Challenge

Sussex v Australians

HOVE (second day of three): Australians, with seven first-innings wickets in hand, are 47 runs behind Sussex

SUSSEX: First Innings 353 (A P Wells 93, I D K Salisbury 59, K Greenfield 55; B P Julian 5-63)

BOWLING: McDermott 23-3-89-2; Hughes 16-3-58-2; Reiffel 21-2-58-0; Julian 22-5-83-5; May 17-3-53-0; Waugh 2.1-0-16-1.

AUSTRALIANS: First Innings

M J Slater b Giddins	73
M L Hayden at Moores b Salisbury	65
D R Martyn not out	78
*A R Border run out	39
S R Waugh not out	41
Extras (b 1, lb 5, w 1, nb 8)	15
Total (3 wkts)	309

B P Julian, †I A Healy, T B A May, M G Hughes, C J McDermott and P R Reiffel to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-115, 2-174, 3-237.

Umpires: H D Bird and M J Kitchen.

RAPID CRICKETLINE SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP (first day of three): Chesterfield: Durham 369 for 8 (J D Glendenen 91, K A Suster 68; P R Whitaker 5-120) and 82 for 7 dec; Derbyshire 272 (A Rossberry 136; D M Cox 5-59, J P Searle 4-91) and 49 for no wkt. Match drawn.

Chelmsford: Essex 316 for 9 dec (R J Rollins 104, M Dixon 56) and 169 for 8 dec (N C Phillips 4-46); Sussex 211 (G Norris 71, J A North 53, S J W Andrew 4-65) and 170 (J A North 77, J H Childs 6-28). Essex won by 104 runs.

Southampton: Hampshire 210 and 125 for 6; Gloucestershire 300 for 5 dec. Match drawn.

Harrow: Middlesex 259 (P Fairbrace 98) and 365 for 7 dec (R J Sims 114, A R Roberts 4-69); Northamptonshire 223 (R J Warren 86, M N Bowen 51) and 163 for 7 (A R Roberts 69 not out, K P Dutch 4-36). Match drawn.

Ammanford: Nottinghamshire 435 for 4 dec and 155 for 8 dec (K P Evans 86 not out; M Frost 4-52); Glamorgan 301 (G Butcher 108) and 210 and 9 (D L Hemp 106 not out). Match drawn.

Old Hill: Somerset 144 and 253; Worcestershire 249 and 150 for 6 (M J Weston 57 not out). Worcestershire won by 4 wickets.

Maidstone: Warwickshire 281 (R M Ellison 4-68, T N Wren 4-56) and 212 for 5 dec (P A Smith 80 not out), Kent 170 (P A Smith 5-33) and 304 for 5 (M J Walker 83, J I Longley 68, Ellison 50 not out). Kent won by five wickets.

Takes corners better than Chris Waddle.



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Chittenden assumes lead in challenge

By Barry Pickthall

JOHN Chittenden's crew aboard Nuclear Electric assumed the lead on the final stage of the British Steel Challenge yesterday, but reports from the fleet of light, fickle winds boxing all points on the compass means the final stage of the race around the world remains wide open.

Indeed, furthest north yesterday was Richard Tudor's British Steel II, which has taken a flyer well out to the west, towards stronger winds in mid-Atlantic. According to the computer, the crew is in eighth place, but that is because it is off the shortest track between Cape Town and Southampton.

Yesterday afternoon, Tudor reported that his yacht was sailing at six knots into a north-westerly breeze, while the three leaders, Nuclear Electric, Rhone-Poulenc and Group 4 Securitas, were almost becalmed 300 miles to the east.

Chittenden will be most nervous. His yacht has an eight-hour lead in the overall standings, which could be lost in a day if Group 4, a close rival, breaks clear into fresher winds.

"The weather is totally unpredictable at the moment," Chittenden said. "The high-pressure system normally sitting over the Azores has been pushed up over Greenland. The weather is now very unstable, making it difficult to predict what is going to happen. Sooner or later, the high-pressure system will reform down here, and for the moment it is made all the more complicated by the fact that we are getting completely different forecasts from England and Germany."

One yacht to benefit from the changing weather has been Interspray, which moved up to sixth place yesterday ahead of Vivien Cherry's Coopers & Lybrand. Julian Wells, a watch leader on board Interspray, said: "We have watched the leading boats fall into a hole in the wind which has allowed us to get back into the middle of the fleet, ready to enjoy the westerlies which must come soon."

His main concern yesterday, however, was a lack of food onboard. "Our purser expected this to be a fast leg home and now we are down to scratching about in the bottom of the cupboards looking for scraps to put with the bread mix."

About 180 miles behind the leaders, the crew on Heath Insured appear to have come to terms with the loss of their crew-mate, Bill Vincent, lost over-board two weeks ago. The crewman, Adrian Rayson, said: "The days since Bill's death have been fraught with frustration. In coming to terms with his loss, we have become determinedly jocular and thrown ourselves back into the business of racing."

However, the weather had, until recently, made it difficult. Fickle winds and adverse currents have meant that Heath Insured's daily runs have been 50 per cent less than the leaders. Sometimes it seemed that it was racing on a different sea and in different winds, and was part of a different race. Yesterday, however, the wheel of fortune swung through 180 degrees, and, although Heath Insured remains last, it halved its deficit on the leaders.

LEADING POSITIONS (at 14:00GMT yesterday, with miles to Southampton): 1, Nuclear Electric (J Chittenden), 1,672; 2, Rhone-Poulenc (P Phillips), 1,677; 3, Group 4 Securitas (M Golding), 1,687; 4, Commercial Union (R Merriweather), 1,745; 5, Pride of Teesside (I MacGillivray), 1,748; 6, Interspray (P Jeffes), 1,759; 7, Coopers & Lybrand (V Cherry), 1,770; 8, British Steel II (R Tudor), 1,788; 9, Hofbrau Lager (P Goss), 1,821; 10, Heath Insured (A Donovan), 1,952.
☐ Compiled by British Telecom.

☐ Thierry Peponnet won the Royal Lymington Cup yesterday after beating Eddie Warden Owen, Britain's top match-race sailor, with two straight victories in the British match-race grand prix at Lymington.

The Frenchman's initial lead in the first race was threatened when he misjudged the tide and hit the weather mark, but he completed a penalty turn before Warden Owen could overtake, and went on to take the winning gun. Pepponet made no mistakes in the second heat and won the series with a race to spare.

RESULT: T Pepponet (Fr) bt E Warden Owen (GB) 2-0; 3, J Bank (Den); 4, M Bouet (Fr).



Rising to the occasion: Gillian Milner shows good form on Hattons Evening Song in the Accumulator class at Windsor yesterday

Whitaker clearly correct

By Jenny MacArthur

VERONIQUE Whitaker, riding Everest Fol Amour, had to overcome an extra obstacle before winning the ladies' national show jumping champion at the Royal Windsor Horse Show yesterday: the advice of her husband and trainer, Michael.

Mrs Whitaker, who had not won the title before, was determined to compete in the class. Michael Whitaker, who thought she should save her horse for the grand prix in the evening — worth £3,200 compared with the women's £500 — was equally determined that she should not.

Mrs Whitaker is unaccustomed to being at odds with her husband. His support helped her to become the British champion in 1991 and to win the Olympia World Cup qualifier two years ago — but yesterday she stood her ground.

"Fol Amour had been very uptight on the first two days and I thought another competition before the grand prix would do her good," the Belgian-born Whitaker, 34, said.

She produced one of only three clear rounds in the 36-strong opening round. In the jump-off, Whitaker was again faultless, and fast. She attributed the nine-year-old mare's improvement to her breeding. "She's Irish — they get better as they get older," she said.

Julia Cleeland, 24, a former bank clerk from Plymouth, nearly upset the form when she and her Cornish-bred horse, Finance, competing at Windsor for the first time, were up on Whitaker's time until an unlucky slip at the eighth fence relegated them to second place. Amanda Kent, on Mr Ross Poldark, was third.

Earlier, Nick Skelton improved his chances of qualifying for the £10,000 Toyota British Horsemaster today when he and Everest Florida won the Accumulator, the third qualifying competition.

The Harrods international driving grand prix got underway with George Bowman taking the lead with his Cumberland cobs. The Duke of Edinburgh, who did his test in pouring rain, watched by the Queen, is third in the teams of ponies.

RESULTS: Lucas ladies' championship: 1, Everest Fol Amour (V Whitaker), 0 faults, 47.48sec; 2, Finance (J Cleeland), 4, 53.14; 3, Mr Ross Poldark (A Kent), 8, 52.45. Accumulator jumping: 1, Everest Florida (N Skelton), 41.55; 2, McBumble Bee (P Charles), 42.35; 3, Everest Monsanta (M Whitaker), 43.51. Harrods International driving grand prix: Teams of horses: 1, G Bowman (GB), 37.3pts; 2, J-E Pahlsson (Swe), 39.3; 3, T Eriksson (Swe), 44.7. Teams of ponies: 1, P Gammell (GB), 37.0; 2, A Unmussig (Ger), 45.0; 3, HRH Duke of Edinburgh (GB), 51.3. TNT cob championship: Champion, N Jubert's Woodlands Pippin; reserve, Osborne Refrigeration Ltd's Madison.

Monie planning grand slam exit

By Christopher Irvine

JOHN Monie, of Wigan, who received the coach of the season prize for the fourth year in succession in the Stones Bitter awards, hopes to crown his achievements in British rugby league tomorrow by watching his team complete the grand slam of the five principle competitions.

Should Wigan defeat St Helens in the premiership final, Monie, a stickler for statistics, will tot up his final balance thus: 15 important titles in four seasons, four runners-up places, and an overall record of won 136, drawn 4, lost 32. Not bad for a self-confessed beach bum.

After his swansong at Old Trafford tomorrow, Monie will return to Australia and a brief respite on the beach before joining the Auckland Warriors. Even by retaining all the silverware next season, John Dorahy, his Australian successor, can only emulate, not surpass, the record of the quiet thinker from Woy Woy.

St Helens ran Wigan close for the championship and the Lancashire Cup, and even inflicted a record 41-6 defeat on them at Christmas. But Wigan's pre-eminence in the Challenge Cup, for a sixth year, and Regal Trophy was never really questioned and a second consecutive premiership title seems a natural conclusion to a season of unparalleled success.

Featherstone Rovers will be favourites to beat Workington Town in the preceding divisional premiership final.

Courier has a taste for Europe

JIM Courier, the world's second-ranked player, reached the semi-finals of the Italian Open tennis tournament in Rome yesterday.

The American defending champion, though seeded No 2 for this tournament, settled quickly into his rhythm to knock out Sergi Bruguera, of Spain, 6-3, 6-4.

In ten days' time, Courier begins a campaign to secure a hat-trick of French Open titles. Yet playing outside America has not always been to his taste. "When I came over here as a 17- or 18-year-old, like most Americans, I was very narrow-minded," Courier said.

"I was not happy to be in Europe. But now I realise some things over here are better than in the States: the architecture, the food and the lifestyle among them," he said.

Courier, 22, showed just how at ease he feels on foreign soil by sweeping aside Bruguera, a clay-court specialist, in one hour 39 minutes. He broke the Spaniard for 1-0 in the second set after a ten-minute game and was never threatened afterwards.

Goran Ivanisevic, meanwhile, out-hit the determined Marcelo Filippini, of Uruguay — the man who put out Ivan Lendl earlier in the week — to score a 7-6, 6-4 win.

But, for once, Ivanisevic, 21, from Croatia, relied on a solid groundstroke game rather than his ferocious service, hitting just three aces throughout the match.

Ivanisevic, whose form had gone through a patchy spell after being sidelined with a foot injury, said: "I am full of confidence after this victory.

"I never expected to get into the semi-finals. I was hoping to just win a few rounds. Now I believe I can beat everybody and win this tournament."

It was his best showing on clay since the Olympic Games in Barcelona, where he also reached the semi-final stage before losing to the eventual champion, Marc Rosset, of Switzerland.

Sixth in the world on the computer rankings, Ivanisevic won the first set tie-break on his second opportunity with a forehand and broke Filippini in the seventh game of the second set before powering to victory.

RESULTS: Third round: A Chesnokov (Russ) bt B Becker (Ger), 6-2, 3-6, 7-6; P Sampras (US) bt C Bergstrom (Swe), 6-1, 6-4. Quarter-finals: G Ivanisevic (Cro) bt M Filippini (Uru), 7-6, 6-4; J Courier (US) bt S Bruguera (Sp), 6-3, 6-4.

Soft surface could hinder Barathea

From Our Irish Racing Correspondent in Dublin

OVER the past 25 years, four winners of the 2,000 Guineas at Newmarket have gone on to complete the Guineas double at the Curragh.

However, Grundy remains the only English Guineas runner-up to win the Irish version since the race was first run more than 70 years ago.

That statistic will not prevent punters from taking a short price about Barathea in the Airlie/Coolmore Irish 2,000 Guineas as he attempts to further endorse the Newmarket success of Zafonic.

If there is a problem, it is not so much the quality of the opposition but the considerable amount of rain that has fallen at the Curragh over the past 48 hours.

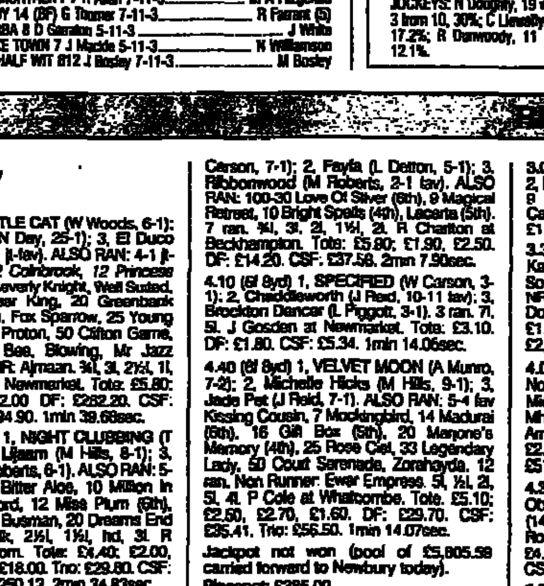
The prediction is that the ground will ride yielding at best today, and that is an unknown factor where Barathea is concerned. Both his juvenile wins were on good to firm going.

However, his trainer Luca Cumani is confident that he will handle the altered going and, that being the case, it is hard to pick a hole in the form.

Petardia, who was fourth, another four-and-a-half lengths in arrears of Barathea, takes him on again, even though his handler, Geoffrey Wragg, stated that he would be happy with second-place money. He won two of last year's major juvenile events, the Coventry Stakes and the Laurent Perrier Champagne Stakes. It is unlikely though that he will be favoured by the softer going and a more likely candidate to chase Barathea home is Lester Piggott's mount, Fatherland. He looked certain to top our juvenile classification until disappointing behind Zafonic in last season's Dewhurst Stakes.

There were excuses for him then and again when he failed to give 7lb to Massyar at Leopardstown last month, this defeat being attributed to a throat infection. He will be much more at home on this surface.

There is also a strong British challenge for the group two Tattersalls Gold Cup, over ten furlongs, with the raiders supplying four of the seven runners. Ezzoud, a good winner at Newmarket, is preferred to Silver Wisp.



Cumani: confident his hope can handle going

CURRAGH LINE-UP

GOING: GOOD TO YIELDING DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

3.50 THE AIRLIE/COOLMORE IRISH 2,000 GUINEAS
(Group I: 3-Y-O colts & fillies: Ir£149,649: 1m) (11 runners)

1 (1) 11-42 BARATHEA 14 (F,G) (Sheikh Mohammed) L Cumani (GB) 9-0 M Roberts 99
2 (9) 11115-2 FATHERLAND 28 (C,G,S) (Mrs M O'Brien) M V O'Brien 9-0 L Piggott 90
3 (6) 12333-4 FITZCARRALDO 22 (F) (Sheikh Mohammed) L Cumani (GB) 9-0 W R Swinburn 80
4 (3) 144-500 IVORY FRONTIER 14 (C,G) (P Gleeson) J Bolger 9-0 C Roche 84
5 (2) 551-1 MASSYAR 28 (D,G,S) (H Aga Khan) J Oxx 9-0 R Hughes 87
6 (5) 1-2 MASTER TRIBE 21 (G) (Lord Harrington) C Collins 9-0 P Gilson 80
7 (7) 1-4 MYSTERIOUS WAYS 21 (C,G) (Mrs A Manning) M V O'Brien 9-0 J Murtagh 77
8 (11) 112-133 NORDIC FOX 21 (G) (Mrs C Stubotham) J Bolger 9-0 K Manning 79
9 (8) 1016-04 PETARDIA 14 (B,F) (Mollers Racing) G Wragg (GB) 9-0 M Hills 98
10 (10) 1-51 UNUSUAL HEAT 7 (D,G) (T Liang) D Weld 9-0 M J Kinane 91
11 (4) 31-3 VIA PARIGI 14 (C,G) (D Dobson) J Bolger 9-0 — 72

BETTING: 4-6 Barathea, 11-2 Petardia, 7-1 Fatherland, 8-1 Unusual Heat, 12-1 Ivory Frontier, 14-1 Massyar, 20-1 Mysterious Ways, 25-1 others.

1992: RODRIGO DE TRIANO 9-0 L Piggott (6-11 fav) P Chapple-Hyam 6 ran

BANGOR

THUNDERER
11.45 Skipping Tim. 12.15 Shanbally Boy. 12.45 Scarba. 1.15 Our Slimbridge. 1.45 Montpelier Lad. 2.15 Ghia Gneuiagh.
Brian Beel: 12.15 Local Customer.

GOING: GOOD

11.45 NORTH WEST RACING CLUB SELLING HANDICAP CHASE (£3,061: 2m 4f 110yd) (13 runners)

1 111U SKIPPING TIM 35 (D,F,G,S) M Pipe 14-12-0 R Dunwoody
2 -224 GLASS MOUNTAIN 181 (B,F,G) J White 11-10-10 A Maguire
3 040P SCARNING DALE 21 (B,S) W Bentley 10-10-6 N Bentley (3)
4 250/ SPIRITED HOLME 892 (V,C,F,G) D Williams 8-10-5 H Davies
5 4P23 OVER THE STYX 9 G Richards 8-10-5 M Moloney
6 5P-5 SMITHY BEAR 278 (F,S) K Bridgwater 11-10-4 W Humphreys
7 0636 DAVY'S WEIR 38 (D,F,G) B Thornley 13-10-2 R Marley
8 2P41 NATIVE SCOT 33 (S) K Bailey 7-10-1 J Osborne
9 5260 CLARE LAD 25 (F,B,S) D Wintle 10-10-0 R Bellamy
10 00PP DAMCADA 7 D Wintle 5-10-0 N Williamson
11 5433 TRAVELLER'S TRIP 15 (S) J Mackie 12-10-0 T Eley (5)
12 PU3F AUGUST FOLLY 22 (D,F) R Price 13-10-0 D Leahy (5)
13 P5FP CAPTAIN CUTE 21 (V) D Garraton 8-10-0 J White

8-11 Skipping Tim, 7-2 Native Scot, 11-2 Over The Styx, 8-1 others.

12.15 NORTH WEST POINT-TO-POINT FINAL HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £2,626: 3m 110yd) (10)

1 P041 HARLEY 10 (CD,F,B,S) Miss J Eaton 13-12-10 D McCain (5)
2 0/PP/ ABBREVIATED 1594 Miss S Thomas 13-12-3 A Newey (7)
3 DANDY REASON Mrs P Mullen 9-12-3 N Bradley (7)
4 025- IBN SINA 330F P Morris 6-12-3 R Jones (7)
5 3/R5P KNUCKLE DOWN 15 (G) Miss A Green 12-12-3 C Stockton (7)
6 533P LOCAL CUSTOMER 78 (F) P Bradley 8-12-3 B Leavy (7)
7 P10- MOUNTAIN CABIN 378 (G) G Hanmer 11-12-3 C Taylor (7)
8 4355 RHU NA HAVEN 15 R Aston 9-12-3 C Barlow (7)
9 41F- SHANBALLY BOY 459 (D,G,S) G Hanmer 12-12-3 G Hanmer (7)
10 6550- TARA BOY 505 W Francis 8-12-3 D Barlow (7)

6-4 Local Customer, 5-2 Harley, 6-1 Knuckle Down, 13-2 others.

12.45 CHIRK NOVICES HURDLE (£2,270: 2m 1f) (15)

1 P-31 IT'S THE PITS 24 (S) L Lungo 6-11-10 T Reed
2 2F41 NOUVELLE CUISINE 7 (F) G Moore 5-11-5 N Bentley (3)
3 5P-0 COZZI 8 J Bradley 5-11-3 W Marston (3)
4 4P06 FOREST LORD 15 D McCain 9-11-3 D Walsh (5)
5 433F KILLULA CHIEF 14 (B) K Bailey 6-11-3 J Railton
6 04P5 OLD MORTALITY 7 R Allan 7-11-3 M A Fitzgerald
7 2522 PANDY 14 (BF) G Thorner 7-11-3 R Farrant (5)
8 P64F SCARBA 8 D Garraton 5-11-3 J White
9 0005 SHAKE TOWN 7 J Mackie 5-11-3 N Williamson
10 6P/ THE HALF WIT 812 J Bosley 7-11-3 M Bosley
11 PP00 WHERE ARE WE 4 D Williams 7-11-3 R Davis (5)
12 0 OSSIE 22 N Twiston-Davies 4-10-12 C Llewellyn
13 F8P0 ROYAL FIFE 7 Mrs B Broad 7-10-12 C Woodall (7)
14 PP60 TIBBS INN 7 C Smith 4-10-12 M Ranger
15 0000 MONTAGNE 33 S Coathup 4-10-7 A Maguire

2-1 It's The Pits, 5-2 Nouvelle Cuisine, 4-1 Pandy, 11-2 others.

1.15 WIN WITH THE TOTE HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,631: 2m 1f) (10)

1 4U13 ABBOT OF FURNESS 24 (C,S) G Richards 9-12-0 N Doughty
2 0320 EASY BUCK 12 (G,S) N Gaselee 6-11-3 C Maude
3 54F1 SAN LORENZO 12 (C,D,F,G,S) K Bailey 5-10-9 J Osborne
4 1110 KING'S SHILLING 12 (D,F,G) C Broad 8-10-4 Jacqui Oliver
5 132U SIMONE'S SON 12 (B,CD,F,G) G Barnett 5-10-3 D Meade (7)
6 1414 OUR SLIMBRIDGE 18F (D,G) C Williams 5-10-2 A Carroll
7 1025 KING WILLIAM 6F (D,F) J Spearing 8-10-0 R Dunwoody
8 3410 ADMIRALTY WAY 12 (CD,G,S) W Clay 7-10-0 Diane Clay
9 3031 GOLDEN ISLE 12 (F,G) J Charlton 9-10-0 K Johnson
10 3231 FLOWING RIVER 40 (F,G) R Allan 7-10-0 A Maguire

3-1 Golden Isle, 7-2 Our Slimbridge, 4-1 San Lorenzo, 5-1 others.

1.45 RUABON NOVICES CHASE (£2,775: 2m 1f 110yd) (8)

1 4101 DRUMSTICK 3 (D,F,S) K Bailey 7-12-2 J Railton
2 0513 FRISCO CITY 12 (CD,G) Mrs M Rimell 7-12-2 Mr M Rimell (7)
3 5632 MONTPELIER LAD 2 (F,G,S) G Richards 6-12-2 N Doughty
4 23F5 NO MORE THE FOOL 28 (G) J Berry 7-11-10 M Moloney
5 6181 POLDER 11 (F,G) D Williams 7-11-10 R Davis (5)
6 2/0/F LEANDER LAD 77 D McCain 8-11-4 Mr D McCain (5)
7 4060 PASSO ALL'ERTA 12 (V,S) D Deacon 10-11-4 A Maguire
8 2U35 WICKFIELD LAD 36 D Deacon 10-11-4 M A Fitzgerald

9-4 Montpelier Lad, 3-1 Drumstick, 4-1 Frisco City, 5-1 others.

2.15 GOBOWEN NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,407: 2m 4f) (9)

1 1402 COURT CIRCULAR 12 (B,D,G) W Clay 4-11-10 Diane Clay
2 P211 GHIA GNEUIAGH 15 (C,G,S) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-9 C Llewellyn
3 5113 BOOK OF RUNES 28 (V,BF,G,S) J Edwards 8-11-5 N Williamson
4 1053 RAISEAMILLION 39 (F) G Moore 5-11-1 N Bentley (3)
5 2310 THE TITAN GHOST 14 (V,G) S Coathup 4-10-9 A Maguire
6 5323 BEE DEE BOY 14 G Richards 5-10-0 B Harding (7)
7 PP5P VAZON EXPRESS 7 P Dalton 7-10-0 D Winter (7)
8 050- ANOTHER SCALLY 479 J Mackie 10-10-0 T Eley (5)
9 0FPP RIDDLEMEROO 31 (V) A Forbes 8-10-0 Gary Lyons

5-4 Ghia Gneuiagh, 7-2 Book Of Runes, 5-1 Raiseamillion, 8-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Pipe, 25 winners from 75 runners, 33.3%; J White, 8 from 25, 32%; G Richards, 33 from 120, 27.5%; N Twiston-Davies, 8 from 30, 26.7%; K Bailey, 4 from 15, 26.7%; J Edwards, 11 from 66, 16.7%.

JOCKEYS: N Doughty, 19 winners from 60 rides, 31.7%; Jacqui Oliver, 3 from 10, 30%; C Llewellyn, 8 from 35, 22.9%; A Maguire, 5 from 29, 17.2%; R Dunwoody, 11 from 73, 15.1%; R Bellamy, 7 from 58, 12.1%.

SOUTHWELL

THUNDERER
11.55 Indian Crystal. 12.25 Sally's Son. 12.55 Sandmoor Denim. 1.25 Mister Blake. 1.55 Pondering. 2.25 Strip Cartoon.

GOING: STANDARD
DRAW: 6F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST SIS

11.55 TULIP MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,976: 5f) (7 runners)

1 OVALWORLD D Chapman 9-0 D Nicholls 5
2 20 DUBALL REMY 31 Miss Gay Kelleway 8-9 S O'Gorman 1
3 63 INDIAN CRYSTAL 12 M Johnston 8-9 Dean McKeown 2
4 KERAMIC D Haydn Jones 8-9 A Mackay 4
5 MILLRIDGE R Guest 8-9 W Woods 7
6 MILLY'S PET C Hill 8-9 G Bardwell 6
7 023 THE FERNHILL FLYER 15 (V,BF) J Berry 8-9 G Carter 3

7-4 Indian Crystal, 9-4 The Fernhill Flyer, 6-1 Ovalworld, 8-1 others.

12.25 BEGONIA SELLING STAKES (£2,070: 6f) (10)

1 2540 APPEALING TIMES 12 (G) D Chapman 4-9-10 S Wood 2
2 -104 MURRAY'S MAZDA 9 (D,F,G) J Berry 4-9-10 G Carter 7
3 1543 SALLY'S SON 12 (CD,F,G) W O'Gorman 7-9-10 Emma O'Gorman (3) 1
4 5000 MAHZOOZ 51 J Pearce 4-9-5 M Wigham 6
5 3500 NEVENTER 12J M Chapman 4-9-5 V Smith 8
6 0/0-0 WALK THAT WALK 12 (G) K Wingrove 4-9-5 K Pattinson (7) 5
7 00-0 NORDOORA 26 J Harris 4-9-0 F Norton 3
8 -000 RISKMEMAY 5 (B) A Hambly 4-9-0 A Proud 4
9 600- THRILL SEEKER 21J M Tompkins 4-9-0 S Mulvey (7) 9
10 554- SAMANTHAS JOY 191 B McMahon 3-8-3 S Sanders (7) 10

5-4 Samanthas Joy, 4-1 Appealing Times, 11-2 Murray's Mazda, 6-1 others.

12.55 BLACKPOOL'S JONAS HOTEL AND MIRABELLE LTD HANDICAP (£3,106: 7f) (11)

1 0001 SYLVAN SABRE 7 (V,F,G,S) P Mitchell 4-10-1 S Whitworth 10
2 095- CHOIR PRACTICE 206 (F,G) W Haggas 6-9-13 C Rutter 7
3 3050 OUBIZII MARTIN 5 (V,CD,G) D Haydn Jones 5-9-5 A Mackay 6
4 5306 LORD NASKRA 5 (CD,G) W O'Gorman 4-9-2 Emma O'Gorman (3)
5 6205 SANDMOOR DENIM 8 (CD,F,G) S Bowring 6-8-12 G Strange (7) 5
6 4U22 HIGHBORN 5 P Felgate 4-8-10 G Hind 9
7 0360 WELLSY LAD 6 (V,CD,G,S) D Chapman 6-8-6 S Wood 1
8 50-4 HOMILE 8 (B) B McMahon 5-8-5 S Sanders (7) 4
9 406- WALSHAM WITCH 236 (F) C Smith 3-8-6 S Webster 3
10 P-00 ROCK SONG 9 (D,F) J Mackie 4-8-3 F Norton 11
11 35-0 HILLSDOWN BOY 12 (BE) S Dow 3-8-2 G Carter 2

4-1 Highborn, 5-1 Sylvan Sabre, 11-2 Sandmoor Denim, 6-1 others.

1.25 CAMELLIA CLAIMING STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,243: 1m) (13)

1 05 CLARIFICATION 8 J Wharton 9-2 S D Williams (3) 1
2 1532 MISTER BLAKE 40 (B,C,D,BF,G) W O'Gorman 9-0 Emma O'Gorman (3) 13
3 -000 DIVINE RAIN 12 J Payne 8-13 W Hood 11
4 -816 NELLIE'S GAMBLE 12 (C,G,S) A Stringer 8-11 T Williams 10
5 -000 KENTUCKY DREAMS 7 (F) Ronald Thompson 8-10 A Proud 7
6 0-16 HAGGERTY 15 (S) (V,D) J Berry 8-10 G Carter 12
7 0- MARCO CLAUDIO 277 P Kelleway 8-9 W Woods 5
8 5380 IRISH ROOTS 5 (V,C,G) C Tinkler 8-8 F Norton 6
9 0-00 BACKSTABBER 12 Dr J Scargill 8-7 G Hind 3
10 0250 GLOWING PATH 18 (V) C Hill 8-7 S Whitworth 9
11 -604 INNOCENT ABROAD 26 C Booth 8-4 S Perks 4
12 P OLIVIA VAL 33 C Hill 8-0 G Bardwell 2
13 0-04 NIGHTMARE LADY 42 R Harris 7-12 D Biggs 8

7-2 Mister Blake, 4-1 Nightmare Lady, 5-1 Nellie's Gamble, 11-2 others.

1.55 MAGNOLIA HANDICAP (£3,054: 1m 4f) (12)

1 4000 SHUJAN 26 (S) R Armstrong 4-10-0 G Carter 10
2 3300 SUGEMAR 7 (CD,F,G) M Chapman 7-9-12 D McCabe (7) 3
3 /5-5 PHARLY DANCER 39 W Haigh 4-9-12 S Webster 7
4 0600 INTRICACY 12 (CD,B) C Elsey 5-9-8 D Biggs 1
5 5/0 OLD STEINE 7 (B) P Hobbs 5-9-8 D Nicholls 9
6 105-0 FULL SIGHT 5 (G) I Campbell 4-9-2 G Mitchell (7) 2
7 1135 LA REINE ROUGE 18 (D,G) Mrs A Knight 5-9-0 F Norton 12
8 3614 PONDERING 12 (E,D,S) S Dow 3-8-7 C Rutter 5
9 -362 BOROCAY 37 M Camacho 5-8-5 E Johnson 11
10 4-44 INDIAN TERRITORY 84 D Haydn Jones 4-8-2 C Hawksley (7) 6
11 0150 HEIR OF EXCITEMENT 46 (CD,F,G) A Stringer 8-7-12 T Williams 8
12 00-0 BUZZARDS CREST 134 (S) Bob Jones 8-7-7 G Bardwell 4

13-8 La Reine Rouge, 4-1 Full Sight, 5-1 Pondering, 6-1 Sugemar, 8-1 others.

2.25 EAST MIDLAND ELECTRICITY HANDICAP (£3,260: 5f) (9)

1 0150 SOBA GUEST 14 (D,F,G,S) J Berry 4-10-0 Emma O'Gorman (3) 4
2 21-6 PEERAGE PRINCE 8 (B,CD,F,G) P Mitchell 4-9-8 G Forster (7) 2
3 0102 SIR TASKER 12 (V,CD,F,G) J Harris 5-9-2 F Norton 6
4 50-2 SYLVAN BREEZE 7 (V) P Mitchell 5-8-11 S Whitworth 3
5 6405 MAID WELCOME 44 (B,CD,FG) Mrs N Macauley 6-8-10 Madeleine Smith (7) 5
6 505/ NILU 942 (G) B McMahon 5-8-8 S Sanders (7) 1
7 2212 STRIP CARTOON 9 (B,CD,G,S) S Bowring 5-8-2 G Strange (7) 8
8 0430 HINARI VIDEO 8 (CD,G,S) M Johnston 8-8-2 T Williams 9
9 0-04 LET'S GO LOCHY 26 C Hill 7-7-7 G Bardwell 7

9-4 Sylvan Breeze, 5-2 Strip Cartoon, 7-2 Sir Tasker, 6-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: W O'Gorman, 38 winners from 190 runners, 20%; W Haggas, 8 from 41, 19.5%; C J Hill, 25 from 144, 17.4%; A Stringer, 5 from 30, 16.7%; W Haigh, 12 from 76, 15.8%; Bob Jones, 3 from 19, 15.8%.

JOCKEYS: Emma O'Gorman, 31 winners from 190 rides, 16.3%; D Biggs, 24 from 155, 15.5%; G Carter, 32 from 250, 12.8%; Dean McKeown, 33 from 303, 10.9%; D Nicholls, 17 from 156, 10.9%; G Bardwell, 30 from 292, 10.3%.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S MEETINGS

Newbury
Going: good

2.05 (1m) 1, MISTLE CAT (W Woods, 6-1); 2, River Board (N Day, 25-1); 3, El Duco (Paul Eddery, 4-1 jt-fav). ALSO RAN: 4-1 jt-fav Tashemi, 9-2 Colnbrook, 12 Princess Heyley (5th), 14 Beverly Knight, Well Suited, 16 Learmont, Lear King, 20 Greenbank (4th), Time Again, Fox Sparrow, 25 Young Petoski (6th), 33 Proton, 50 Clifton Game, Mellerio, Bonita Bee, Blowing, Mr Jazz Dancer. 20 ran. NR: Ajmaan. ¾l, 3l, 2½l, 1l, 1½l. S Woods at Newmarket. Tote: £5.80; £2.20, £24.00, £2.00. DF: £262.20. CSF: £141.34. Trio: £194.90. 1min 39.68sec.

2.40 (1m 4f 5yd) 1, NIGHT CLUBBING (T Quinn, 11-2); 2, Lijaam (M Hills, 8-1); 3, Free Mover (M Roberts, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 5-1 fav Googly, 7 Bitter Aloe, 10 Million In Mind (5th), Discord, 12 Miss Plum (6th), Jimill, 16 Phrose, Busman, 20 Dreams End (4th). 12 ran. Nk, 2½l, 1½l, hd, 3l. R Akehurst at Epsom. Tote: £4.40; £2.00, £2.20, £2.30. DF: £18.00. Trio: £29.80. CSF: £45.29. Tricast: £250.12. 2min 34.83sec.

3.10 (1m) 1, SWING LOW (L Piggott, 12-1); 2, Wharf (W Ryan, 4-1); 3, Culture Vulture (T Quinn, 15-2). ALSO RAN: 2-1 fav Hazaam (6th), 15-2 Stubass (5th), 9 Feminine Wiles, 14 Lucky Lindy, A-To-Z, 20 Powerful Edge, Alfiora (4th). 10 ran. 1l, nk, ½l, 1l, 2½l. R Hannon at Marlborough. Tote: £16.60; £2.80, £2.00, £1.60. DF: £56.90. Trio: £68.00. CSF: £55.54. 1min 39.31sec.

3.40 (1m 2f 6yd) 1, ATHENS BELLE (W Carson, 7-1); 2, Fayfa (L Dettori, 5-1); 3, Ribbonwood (M Roberts, 2-1 fav). ALSO RAN: 100-30 Love Of Silver (6th), 9 Magical Retreat, 10 Bright Spells (4th), Lacerta (5th). 7 ran. ¾l, 3l, 2l, 1½l, 2l. R Charlton at Beckhampton. Tote: £5.80; £1.90, £2.50. DF: £14.20. CSF: £37.58. 2min 7.90sec.

4.10 (6f 8yd) 1, SPECIFIED (W Carson, 3-1); 2, Chaddleworth (J Reid, 10-11 fav); 3, Brockton Dancer (L Piggott, 3-1). 3 ran. 7l, 5l. J Gosden at Newmarket. Tote: £3.10. DF: £1.80. CSF: £5.34. 1min 14.06sec.

4.40 (6f 8yd) 1, VELVET MOON (A Munro, 7-2); 2, Michelle Hicks (M Hills, 9-1); 3, Jade Pet (J Reid, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 5-4 fav Kissing Cousin, 7 Mockingbird, 14 Madurai (5th), 16 Gift Box (5th), 20 Marjorie's Memory (4th), 25 Rose Ciel, 33 Legendary Lady, 50 Court Serenade, Zorahayda. 12 ran. Non Runner: Ewar Empress. 5l, ½l, 2l, 5l, 4l. P Cole at Whatcombe. Tote: £5.10; £2.60, £2.70, £1.60. DF: £29.70. CSF: £35.41. Trio: £56.50. 1min 14.07sec.

Jackpot not won (pool of £5,605.59 carried forward to Newbury today).
Placepot: £385.00.

Thirsk
Going: soft

2.30 (1m 4f) 1, Almost A Princess (G Duffield, 14-1); 2, Post Impressionist (5-1); 3, Le Temeraire (20-1). Beladiya 3-1 fav. 17 ran. NR: Young George, Balzino. 1½l, 2l. W G M Turner. Tote: £15.60; £2.40, £2.80, £10.50. DF: £68.30. CSF: £77.54.

3.00 (7f) 1, Desert Splendour (J Lowe, 5-1); 2, Pop To Stans (7-2); 3, Speed Oil (5-2 fav). 9 ran. NR: Jake The Pake. 1l, nk. B Cambidge. Tote: £6.30; £2.00, £1.80, £1.90. DF: £5.30. CSF: £22.15.

3.30 (5f) 1, So Superb (J Lowe, 14-1); 2, Kalar (20-1); 3, Prince Belfort (11-1); 4, Ever So Lonely (8-1). Sonderise 5-1 fav. 20 ran. NR: Nifty Fifty, Coconut Johnny. 1½l, ½l. M Dods. Tote: £16.30; £2.50, £7.40, £4.60, £1.70. DF: £545.80. CSF: £258.25. Tricast: £2,916.13.

4.00 (1m) 1, Ikhtiraa (N Carlisle, 16-1); 2, Northern Chief (10-3); 3, Wolf Power (10-1). Midnight Heights 2-1 fav. 8 ran. NR: Mhemeanles, Umbubuzi, Runrig. 2l, 2½l. R Armstrong. Tote: £20.10; £3.10, £1.10, £2.70. DF: £19.20. CSF: £64.22. Tricast: £517.41.

4.30 (7f) 1, Caliser (T Sprake, 5-1); 2, Obsidian Grey (3-1); 3, Don't Tell Jean (14-1). Dokkha Oyston Evens fav. 8 ran. NR: Rose Gem. ½l, 1½l. W G M Turner. Tote: £4.40; £1.30, £2.20, £3.10. DF: £17.10. CSF: £22.13.

5.00 (1m) 1, Redstella (A Culhane, 20-1); 2, Amaam Amaam (11-4); 3, Conspicuous (9-2). 15 ran. NR: Bollin Bob, Jura Forest, Persian Charmer. 4l, 1½l. R Whitaker. Tote: £30.30; £5.50, £2.10, £1.40. DF: £104.90. CSF: £73.02.

5.30 (1m) 1, Star Manager (S Perks, 7-4 fav); 2, Zajira (15-8); 3, Spice And Sugar (6-1). 5 ran. NR: Lower Egypt, Chatoyant, Tyleyvor. 2l, 8l. P Cole. Tote: £2.70; £1.30, £1.30. DF: £2.30. CSF: £5.06.

6.00 (2m) 1, Encore Une Fois (Dean McKeown, 12-1); 2, Kaiser Wilhelm (3-1 fav); 3, Wilkins (100-30). 9 ran. 1l, 2½l. M Johnston. Tote: £17.60; £3.90, £1.10, £1.80. DF: £142.70. CSF: £44.56. Tricast: £135.21. NR: French Ivy, Star Quest.
Placepot: £293.80.

Stratford
Going: good to firm (good in places)

6.05 (2m 6f 110yd hdle) 1, Kano Warrior (D Bridgwater, 7-1); 2, Jolly Jaunt (14-1); 3, Major Bush (12-1). Jawani 10-11 fav. 12 ran. NR: Don't Tell The Wife, Marildadi. 7l, 1½l. N Twiston-Davies. Tote: £8.90; £1.90, £3.60, £2.10. DF: £178.50. CSF: £90.32.

☐ Sedgefield abandoned - course waterlogged.

Thursday's late results

Huntingdon
Going: firm

6.00 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, Casa Bella (D Byrne, 9-1); 2, Quallair Memory (4-1); 3, Green Walk (20-1). I'm Special 7-2 fav. 13 ran. 1½l, 6l. B Richmond. Tote: £11.80; £3.20, £1.30, £9.70. DF: £32.00. CSF: £45.55. Tricast: £864.03.

6.30 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Rockmount Rose (Mr C Burnett-Wells, 5-1); 2, Sardarli (9-2); 3, Nessfield (11-2). Notary-Nowell 7-4 fav. 11 ran. 15l, 3½l. R Rowe. Tote: £6.40; £1.70, £1.80, £2.40. DF: £12.50. CSF: £25.84. Tricast: £113.16.

7.00 (3m 2f hdle) 1, This Nettle Danger (M Brennan, 9-2); 2, Northern Village (5-1); 3, Joker Jack (6-1). Perry Well 100-30 fav. 7 ran. 2½l, 8l. O Brennan. Tote: £4.60; £1.90, £2.60. DF: £9.60. CSF: £25.65.

7.30 (3m ch) 1, Qannaas (Mrs P Nash, 11-2); 2, Fort Hall (9-2); 3, Military Two Step (20-1). Fell Mist 3-1 fav. 8 ran. 7l, 3½l. W Smith. Tote: £5.60; £1.30, £2.10, £3.70. DF: £6.60. CSF: £29.03.

8.00 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Little Tom (M Hourigan, 7-2); 2, They All Forgot Me (4-1); 3, The Fruit (33-1). Boston Rover 3-1 fav. 7 ran. NR: Corrarder, Montalino. 6l, 8l. J King. Tote: £3.50; £2.00, £2.40. DF: £9.20. CSF: £16.57. Tricast: £343.40.

8.30 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Who's Tef (L Wyer, 4-5 fav); 2, Manenoo (7-2); 3, Menabouthehouse (6-1). 12 ran. NR: Scrutineer, Green's Trilogy. 5l, 2l. M H Easterby. Tote: £1.90; £1.20, £1.80, £2.20. DF: £4.40. CSF: £5.06.
Placepot: £518.10.

Newton Abbot
Going: good

5.45 (3m 2f 110yd ch) 1, Buddy Holly (C Llewellyn, 9-1); 2, Rocktor (9-4); 3, Sooner Still (11-8 fav). 6 ran. 2½l, 12l. J Old. Tote: £10.30; £2.30, £1.80. DF: £17.70. CSF: £26.35. After a stewards' enquiry, result stood.

6.15 (3m 2f 110yd ch) 1, Little Lemon (Mr N Moore, 2-1 fav); 2, Shamarphil (13-2); 3, Tamar Lass (13-2). 12 ran. 1½l, 3l. D Luxton. Tote: £3.50; £1.90, £3.00, £1.70. DF: £17.00. CSF: £14.18.

6.45 (2m 6f hdle) 1, Mardood (H Davies, 13-8 fav); 2, Sea Buck (6-1); 3, Midnight Strike (10-1). 11 ran. 1½l, 12l. P Leach. Tote: £2.40; £2.00, £1.80, £4.40. DF: £5.90. CSF: £13.30. Tricast: £78.32.

7.15 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Muddy Lane (G Bradley, 11-1); 2, Mount Kinabalu (100-30); 3, Great Impostor (11-1). Milrous 2-1 fav. 12 ran. 3l, 3½l. P Nicholls. Tote: £11.50; £2.60, £2.00, £3.00. DF: £16.30. CSF: £49.74.

7.45 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Miss Equilla (M Perrett, 17-2); 2, Will She Wont She (5-1); 3, River Island (4-6 fav). 8 ran. 2½l, ½l. M Pipe. Tote: £6.80; £2.20, £1.30, £1.10. DF: £21.30. CSF: £46.75.

8.15 (2m 6f hdle) 1, Allo George (S McNeill, 3-2 fav); 2, Garston La Gaffe (5-1); 3, Allyfair (10-1). 12 ran. NR: Vanisid, Trumpet. Nk, 5l. M Williams. Tote: £4.90; £2.50, £2.30, £2.60. DF: £11.00. CSF: £25.35. Tricast: £195.17.
Placepot: £134.50.

☐ Luca Cumani has three runners in Italy tomorrow. Michael Roberts rides Only Royale and Inner City at San Siro, while Ray Cochrane partners Masad in the group one Premio Presidente della Reppubblica at Capannelle.

مصورة من الأصل

Determined Carson helps Charlton recover from fine

By Richard Evans, Racing Correspondent

ROGER Charton yesterday witnessed at first hand the dark and delightful sides of racing and jockeyship. One cost him a £400 fine: the other ended with an unlikely yet thrilling victory.

The contrasting fortunes of the Derby-winning Beckhampton trainer at Newbury encapsulated perfectly two of the burning issues in racing today which prompt so much debate and division — non-triers and how vigorous jockeys should be on their mounts.

After the opening race, Charlton and his jockey Steve Raymont were summoned before the stewards over the running of Fox Sparrow, who finished well beaten.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: JIGSAW BOY (3.30 Newbury)
Next best: First Gold (4.15 Thirsk)

The three-year-old was settled at the rear of the 20-strong field by Raymont, was handled tenderly throughout and never looked like getting into the picture.

Raymont, who normally rides less fancied runners for Charlton and other trainers, has previous experience of such enquiries. Last August, he and Richard Hannon were each fined £400 at Kempton after a blatant case of a non-trier involving Revelation. The unplaced horse subsequently won its next race, a competitive York maiden, by five lengths.

After hearing the explanations of Charlton and Raymont yesterday, the Newbury stewards had no hesitation in fining each of them £400 as they were not satisfied Fox Sparrow had been ridden out for the best possible placing.

An hour and a half later, the flip side of race riding saw Charlton in the winners' enclosure. Willie Carson, fined £1,200 for dropping his hands on Bashayer at Chester two weeks ago, rode Athens Belle as though his life depended on it in the Vodafone Group Fillies' Trial.

Two furlongs from home, his chances of success appeared slim with the front-running Fayfa having already repelled the disappointing favourite, Ribbonwood.

Carson pushed, pumped and wielded his whip nine times during the next furlong. The jockey then found himself faced with the classic dilemma. Continued use of the whip would have guaranteed a four-day ban from the stewards. Elsewhere, betting shop punters who had backed Athens Belle would be vocally urging Carson to continue his vigorous riding.

In the end he opted for a satisfactory compromise. During the final 200 yards he pushed, shoved and kicked with all his might, resorted to the whip only once and Athens Belle forged ahead in the dying strides.

Charlton accepted the day's varying fortunes in his normal philosophical manner. "Fox Sparrow finished four lengths behind a horse he finished three lengths behind two weeks ago, but I am not complaining or making an issue of it," he said.



Contrasting fortunes: Charlton receives £400 fine at Newbury before saddling big-race winner

Sandwiched between the Charlton dramas, the Newbury crowd was treated to a vintage riding display by Lester Piggott as he brought Swing Low from last to first to take the day's feature race, the Juddmonte Lockinge Stakes. The winner, who cost just 3,750 guineas, could now contest the Queen Anne Stakes at Royal Ascot.

Piggott's superb jockeyship followed two recent races in which the 57-year-old maestro found himself on the receiving end of criticism. A week ago at Lingfield, each-way backers of Able Choice lost out when Piggott got pipped for third place after easing the horse inside the final 75 yards. At York, those who backed Lochsong were not overjoyed by Piggott's exploits.

All of which goes to show it is easy for armchair experts, helped by slow-motion video replays, to criticise. In a sport where split-second timing and decisions are crucial, no-one is perfect, not even Piggott.

Pritchard chasing hard after Crow

Point-to-point
By Brian Beel

AS THE point-to-point begins to get an end-of-term feeling, interest today will centre mainly on the individual championships.

Julian Pritchard's double at the Cotswold on Wednesday evening puts him within hailing distance of Alistair Crow. With 18 successes, he is the only serious challenger to Crow's 21 now that Justin Farthing has retired from the saddle.

The two principals are likely to be in action at the Golden Valley where a huge entry of 229 has been received for the seven races.

Plans are fluid for Alison Dare, the women's champion and joint-leader, and depend on which course, Bratton Down or Barbury Castle, gets most of the forecast rain. On the same mark with 18 wins, Mandy Turner will be at the Dulverton West on Oriental Plume in the ladies' event, having recovered from her bad fall.

Polly Curling will be at the same event with four likely rides for Richard Barber.

The North West area has its point-to-point championship at Bangor today at 12.15, a convenient time for many riders who will be going on to the Golden Valley. Local Customer was impressive when winning at Weston Park last time out and looks best.

TODAY'S MEETINGS: Border: Corbridge, 2 miles north of town (first race 2.00); Dulverton West: Bratton Down, 10m N of South Moulton (2.00); Golden Valley: Bredwardine, 7m E of Hay on Wye (2.30); Tedworth: Barbury Castle, 3m S of Wroughton (2.00).

Wemyss Bight in narrow victory

By Julian Muscat

WEMYSS Bight, the French-trained Oaks favourite, maintained her unbeaten record with a narrow victory in the ten-and-a-half furlong Prix Cleopatre at Saint-Cloud yesterday.

Ridden for the first time by Pat Eddery, Wemyss Bight held off her Andre Fabre-trained stable companion, Bright Moon, by a scant nose after the lack of early pace forced her to make her own running in testing conditions.

Alice Springs — like Bright Moon, in receipt of 5lb from the winner — was a further short neck away third.

Alice Springs provides a useful form line in that she was beaten half a length by another Fabre-trained filly Intrepidity, who has the Oaks as her target after tackling the Prix Saint Alary tomorrow week.

Ladbrokes saw enough in Wemyss Bight's performance to cut her Oaks odds to 4-1. She is now clear favourite, with Marillette, the Musidora winner, next best at 5-1. Intrepidity is a 10-1 chance.

The race did not go to plan as far as Eddery was concerned. "I decided to let her stride on after two furlongs but I won't ride her that way again," the Irishman said. "She'll improve over the extra distance at Epsom."

Grant Pritchard-Gordon, racing manager to the filly's owner, Khaled Abdulla, agreed with the jockey's assessment. "Wemyss Bight is out of a mare, Bahamian, who won in group company over a mile and five furlongs.

Wemyss Bight is named after a place in the Bahamas. The portents for her classic chances are good as both Mill Reef and Shirley Heights were named after landmarks in the Caribbean.

Man entitled to carry arms is an armiger, and the colt of that name faces only four opponents in tomorrow's Prix Lupin at Longchamp. The best of them appears to be the improving Hernando, although defeat for Khaled Abdulla's Armiger would come as a major shock.

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NEWBURY	101	201	301
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SOUTHWELL	104	204	304
LINGFIELD PK	105	205	305
HAMILTON PK	106	206	306
CURRAGH	120	220	320
GREYHOUNDS	122	222	322

NEWBURY

THUNDERER

2.00 Red Valerian. 2.30 RUTLAND WATER (nap). 3.00 Shuailaan. 3.30 Nagida. 4.00 Circus Colours. 4.30 Gradient. 5.00 Will Soon.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 4.00 Major Yaasi.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.00 CIRCUS COLOURS.

GOING: GOOD DRAW: 5F 34YD - 6F 8YD, HIGH NUMBERS BEST SIS

2.00 CROOKHAM MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £4,175: 5f 34yd) (19 runners)

101 (11) COMMENDATION DAY (Mrs S Brown) B Hills 9-0 ... D Holland –
102 (2) 0 CONNECT 15 (Mrs J Hannon) B Meehan 9-0 ... W Newnes –
103 (1) DOLLAR GAMBLE (J Leek) R Hannon 9-0 ... B Raymond –
104 (13) ELEVATOR SHAFT (C Wright) D Arbuthnot 9-0 ... R Price –
105 (3) EUROCHEM LAD (K Higson) G Moore 9-0 ... B Rouse –
106 (16) KILLING TIME (Mrs C Thomas) R Hannon 9-0 ... J Corsser –
107 (19) MOUNT LEINSTER (M & N Plant Ltd) P Murphy 9-0 ... J Williams –
108 (18) MR MORIARTY (J Sims) M Jarvis 9-0 ... R Cochrane –
109 (6) PARNASO 13 (G Mazza) P Kelleway 9-0 ... A McGlone –
110 (10) 02 PETER ROWLEY 8 (Mrs P Jubert) R Hannon 9-0 ... J Reid [illegible]
111 (5) PICCOLO (T Leigh) M Channon 9-0 ... Pat Eddery –
112 (7) 0 PRINCE BABAR 21 (G Pritchard-Gordon) G Pritchard-Gordon 9-0 ... N Day –
113 (15) RED NECK (T Roberts) B Palling 9-0 ... Stephen Davies (5) –
114 (9) RED VALERIAN (Mrs D Allan) I Balding 9-0 ... L Dettori –
115 (17) SERIOUS OPTION (Lord Portman) P Cole 9-0 ... T Quinn –
116 (12) SOLO TICKET (S Posford) R Johnson Houghton 9-0 ... A Munro –
117 (8) VERCINGETORIX (Lord Harrington) G Lewis 9-0 ... D Harrison (3) –
118 (4) BON TON (B Brown) M Channon 8-9 ... Paul Eddery –
119 (14) 0 HIGHLAND WARNING 12 (P F-Godley) M Fetherston-Godley 8-9 ... J Weaver (3) –

BETTING: 7-2 Commendation Day, 4-1 Serious Option, 5-1 Red Valerian, 6-1 Piccolo, 8-1 Killing Time, 10-1 Mr Moriarty, Peter Rowley, 12-1 Solo Ticket, 14-1 others.

1992: HEATHFIELD 9-0 T Quinn (7-2 fav) P Cole 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

PETER ROWLEY 1½l 2nd of 13 to High Domain in Lingfield (5f, good) maiden. PRINCE BABAR almost unseated rider after leaving stalls when 11th of 14 to Montaye in Sandown (5f, good to soft) maiden. HIGHLAND WARNING (11½l 8th of 11 to Imperial Ballwick in Warwick (5f, good to firm) maiden. COMMENDATION BAY (foaled May 2, cost 15,000gns) half-brother by Common Grounds to 6f-7f winner Maggie Siddons. DOLLAR GAMBLE (Apr 28, 26,000gns) half-brother by Jareer to smart juvenile sprinter Fair Crack. MR MORIARTY (Apr 30) half-brother by Tate Gallery to 1m 2f winner Green Medina. PICCOLO (May 8, 18,500gns) half-brother by Warning to very useful miler Tahila. RED VALERIAN (Jun 7, 5,600gns) half-brother by Robellino to 1m 3f winner Addicted To Love

Selection: PETER ROWLEY

2.30 MAY HANDICAP (£5,469: 1m 2f 6yd) (22 runners)

201 (22) 100-435 KNOCK KNOCK 14 (D,F,G) (G Smart) I Balding 8-10-0 ... L Dettori 89
202 (19) 1002-60 BOLD STROKE 14 (D,BF,F,S) (T Wilson) J Dunlop 4-9-11 ... J Reid 90
203 (18) 110- LAST EMBRACE 254 (C,D,F,G) (E Loder) Lord Huntingdon 4-9-10 D Harrison (3) 84
204 (5) 26-0 MOVE A MINUTE 21 (Mrs T Brown) D Elsworth 4-9-8 ... B Rouse 90
205 (6) 121-111 ALDERBROOK 19 (D,G,S) (E Pick) Mrs J Cecil 4-9-8 ... Paul Eddery 96
206 (9) 0350-00 YOUNG FREEMAN 14 (B,D,F) (R Kirstein) G Harwood 4-9-7 ... M Perrett [illegible]
207 (15) 180400- HAROLDON 273 (G) (Lamb Brook Associates) B Palling 4-9-6 Stephen Davies (5) 80
208 (20) 2020-04 PELORUS 14 (C,D,F,S) (Miss V Owen) D Elsworth 8-9-6 ... J Williams 93
209 (21) 2/5-40 WAINWRIGHT 15 (BF) (Shaikh Mohammed) J Gosden 4-9-5 ... R Cochrane 88
210 (14) 4120- CEZANNE 269 (D,F) (Shaikh Mohammed) M Stoute 4-9-5 ... Pat Eddery 87
211 (10) 15403-0 BARFORD LAD 14 (D,F,S) (Mrs C Handscombe) J Fanshawe 6-9-4 ... A Munro 88
212 (12) 0/431-00 PORT SUNLIGHT 12 (C,F,S) (Mrs C Powell) R Hannon 5-9-4 ... A McGlone 91
213 (11) 36531-0 GILDERDALE 11 (D,F,G) (Abbott Racing Partners) J Hills 11-9-3 ... R Hills 93
214 (15) 11223-0 VALLANCE 18 (D,F,G) (Mrs P Harris) P Harris 5-9-2 ... Paul Eddery 91
215 (4) 163-502 SURREY DANCER 18 (D,F,G,S) (Crook Racing Ltd) B Hanbury 5-9-1 B Raymond 95
216 (17) 021-230 LOBILIO 17 (B,D,G) (Dowager Lady Beaverbrook) C Brittain 4-8-12 ... B Doyle (3) 94
217 (8) 434-6 TIME FOR A FLUTTER 14 (J Mountain) C James 4-8-11 ... W Newnes 84
218 (3) 4551/42 RUTLAND WATER 22 (D,F) (Normandy Developments) R Akehurst 6-8-9 T Quinn 92
219 (13) 310-040 DEVILRY 10 (F,G) (Lady McIndoe) G Lewis 3-8-5 ... J Weaver (3) 90
220 (1) 1323/3/ CHAMBROS 89J (F) (E Rebel) N Twiston-Davies 6-8-2 ... D Holland –
221 (2) 05-6225 SWIFT SILVER 12 (D,G,S) (J Corbett) W Musson 6-8-0 ... J Quinn 95
222 (7) 230544 SINCLAIR LAD 18 (D,F,G) (Miss R Dobson) R Hodges 5-7-9 ... N Adams 92

BETTING: 4-1 Alderbrook, 11-2 Surrey Dancer, Rutland Water, 7-1 Pelorus, 8-1 Knock Knock, 10-1 Bold Stroke, Gilderdale, Wainwright, 12-1 Lobilio, 14-1 Barford Lad, Sinclair Lad, 16-1 others.

1992: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

LAST EMBRACE beat Poinciana 1½l in handicap here (1m 2f, good) on penultimate start. ALDERBROOK beat SURREY DANCER (3lb better off) 1½l in Nottingham (1m 2f, good to soft) handicap with SINCLAIR LAD (8lb better off) 5½l 4th and VALLANCE 11th. PELORUS 3¾l 4th of 12 to Muhayaa in Newmarket (1m 3f, good) handicap with KNOCK KNOCK (same terms) short-head 5th, YOUNG FREEMAN 4l 7th, BARFORD LAD ½l 8th and BOLD STROKE 1½l 10th. CEZANNE beat Scrutineer ½l in Sandown (1m 2f, good to firm) maiden. SWIFT SILVER 1½l 2nd of 10 to Lold in Newmarket (1m 2f, good) handicap with LOBILIO (2lb better off) 1l 3rd, RUTLAND WATER (1lb better off) 1½l 4th, SURREY DANCER (2lb better off) neck 5th and BOLD STROKE (7lb better off) 3l 6th. RUTLAND WATER head 2nd of 16 to Camden's Ransom in Sandown (1m 2f, good) handicap with SURREY DANCER 8l 7th.

Selection: RUTLAND WATER

3.00 QUANTEL ASTON PARK STAKES
(Listed race: £12,924: 1m 5f 61yd) (5 runners)

301 (3) 34/14S- MICHELOZZO 265 (D,F,G,S) (Lucayan Stud Ltd) R Hannon 7-9-6 ... L Dettori 78
302 (2) 10130-1 LINPAC WEST 28 (C,G,S) (Linpac Group Ltd) C W C Elsey 7-9-3 ... B Raymond 87
303 (5) 131413- UP ANCHOR 188 (C,F,S) (F Salman) P Cole 4-8-12 ... A Munro 94
304 (4) 32100-1 BRIER CREEK 15 (F,G) (Shaikh Mohammed) J Gosden 4-8-11 ... R Cochrane 93
305 (1) 1144-04 SHUAILAAN 15 (F,G) (Shaikh Ahmed Al Maktoum) A Stewart 4-8-11 ... Pat Eddery [illegible]

BETTING: 6-4 Brier Creek, 9-4 Linpac West, 7-2 Shuailaan, 5-1 Up Anchor, 6-1 Michelozzo

1992: ENDOLI 5-8-11 M Roberts (9-1) C Brittain 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

MICHELOZZO 9l 3rd of 9 to Sought Out in group II Prix Kergorlay (1m 7f, heavy). LINPAC WEST beat Spring 2l in 7-runner group III Lanes End John Porter Stakes here (1m 4f, good). UP ANCHOR beat Spring 1l in 8-runner group III Castrol St Simon Stakes here (1m 4f, soft) last season with LINPAC WEST 11l 7th. Finished 5¾l 3rd of 7 to Only Royale in San Siro (1m 4f, heavy) listed race last time. BRIER CREEK beat Duke Of Eurolink head in 6-runner Newmarket (1m 4f, good) handicap. SHUAILAAN 3l 4th of 8 to Zinaad in group III Jockey Club Stakes at Newmarket (1m 4f, good)

Selection: SHUAILAAN

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
P Chapple-Hyam	12	32	37.5	Pat Eddery	47	234	20.1
H Cecil	27	86	31.4	L Dettori	24	143	16.8
J Toller	4	17	23.5	D Harrison	5	33	15.2
M Stoute	22	103	21.4	S Raymont	3	21	14.3
J Gosden	16	85	18.8	D Holland	6	47	12.8
A Stewart	6	43	14.0	J Reid	16	148	10.8

3.30 HIGH SPEED PRODUCTION HANDICAP
(£5,754: 6f 8yd) (23 runners)

401 (3) 5500-00 GREEN DOLLAR 4 (D,F,G) (B Azemoudeh) S Mellor 10-10-0 Stephen Davies (5) 87
402 (6) 000-050 RED ROSEIN 4 (D,F,G) (J Gittins) J Wilson 7-9-12 ... K Rutter (5) 88
403 (17) 12615-3 PADDY CHALK 22 (D,F,G) (Mrs R Wellman) L Holt 7-9-8 ... J Reid 92
404 (14) 005101- EVERGLADES 203 (D,F,G) (Miss S Oppenheimer) R Charlton 5-9-6. Paul Eddery 91
405 (2) 4450-42 BODARI 22 (F,S) (R Thomas) D Wilson 4-9-5 ... T G McLaughlin (7) 81
406 (15) D6320-0 NAGIDA 14 (CD,G,S) (Miss U Toller) J Toller 4-9-5 ... J Weaver (3) 88
407 (18) 006-000 HOW'S YER FATHER 7 (D,F,G,S) (Unity Farm Holidays) R Hodges 7-9-4 T Sprake 92
408 (13) 0205-03 CALEMAN 26 (F) (M Barger) R Boss 4-9-4 ... Pat Eddery 90
409 (1) 031-628 OUR RITA 14 (D,F,G,S) (A Edwards) J Scargill 4-9-2 ... R Cochrane 90
410 (20) 20624-0 HELIOS 26 (F) (Mrs C Painting) R Simpson 5-9-1 ... B Raymond 87
411 (23) 1240-00 CONFRONTER 17 (D,G,S) (Hatfield Ltd) S Dow 4-9-1 ... A Munro 93
412 (22) 60101-5 JIGSAW BOY 21 (D,BF,F,S) (All Eight Club) P Murphy 4-9-0 ... J Williams 92
413 (16) 163614- CHILI HEIGHTS 189 (CD,S) (B Attenborough) G Balding 3-8-11 ... L Dettori 88
414 (21) 120300- DARUSSALAM 190 (CD,F,G,S) (Fenley Saddlery) R Lee 6-8-11 ... A Tucker (3) 90
415 (19) 6420-00 FASCINATION WALTZ 14 (D,F,S) (F Havercroft) D Shaw 6-8-11 ... J Quinn 91
416 (5) 04100-0 TEMPLE FORTUNE 14 (D,F,G) (L Ward) R Hannon 4-8-11 ... R Hills 87
417 (9) 040-001 MACFARLANE 3 (G,S) (P F-Godley) M Fetherston-Godley 5-8-10 (7ex) D Holland [illegible]
418 (11) 51310-3 SIMPLY SOOTY 21 (BF,S) (Mrs S Joint) B Millman 3-8-9 ... B Doyle (3) 85
419 (10) 3000-50 PHARAOH'S DANCER 19 (B,D,G,S) (Pharaohs Ltd) S Mellor 6-8-9 ... W Newnes 87
420 (8) 321584 LOVE LEGEND 7 (V,D,F,G) (G Thompson) D Arbuthnot 8-8-9 ... T Quinn 90
421 (7) 300101 MARTINA 12 (F,G,S) (Laurel (Leisure) Ltd) G Lewis 5-8-7 ... D Harrison (3) 90
422 (4) 55443- SEA-DEER 282 (P Cook) L Holt 4-8-6 ... N Adams 80
423 (12) 30000-4 YES 14 (D,G,S) (W Coleman) D Thom 5-7-7 ... Kim McDonnell (7) 90

Long handicap: Yes 7-5.

BETTING: 8-1 Macfarlane, 10-1 Bodari, Jigsaw Boy, 12-1 Paddy Chalk, Simply Sooty, 14-1 others.

1992: ORTHORHOMBUS 3-8-1 D Harrison (9-1) G Lewis 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

EVERGLADES beat Appledorn 3l in 22-runner Doncaster (6f, good) handicap with FASCINATION WALTZ 6½l 12th and DARUSSALAM 18th. BODARI neck 2nd of 17 to Lord High Admiral in Sandown (5f, good) handicap with PADDY CHALK head 3rd, LOVE LEGEND 1¾l 6th and FASCINATION WALTZ 2l 8th. CALEMAN 1¼l 3rd of 11 to Milsolin in Brighton (7f, good) handicap. JIGSAW BOY 5½l 5th of 22 to Languedoc in Leicester (6f, good) handicap with RED ROSEIN 14½l 19th. MACFARLANE beat Drum Sergeant 1l in 17-runner York (5f, good) handicap. MARTINA beat Sir Tasker 1½l in Doncaster (5f, good) handicap.

Selection: MACFARLANE

4.00 LONDON GOLD CUP RATED HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £6,245: 1m 4f 5yd) (9 runners)

501 (3) 42-01 MAJOR YAASI 10 (F) (M Suhail) J Fanshawe 9-7 ... B Raymond 88
502 (9) 5350-44 BONAR BRIDGE 10 (C Hamer) R Hannon 9-5 ... J Reid 80
503 (1) 530-11 MARROS MILL 28 (CD,G,S) (A Simpson) M Bell 9-5 ... M Fenton (5) 87
504 (2) 54-01 LEAGUE LEADER 10 (D,F) (Lord Weinstock) M Stoute 9-2 ... Paul Eddery 90
505 (5) 03-25 HOOSIE 22 (Shaikh Mohammed) C Brittain 9-1 ... L Dettori 83
506 (6) 06-50 WARSPITE 11 (Lady Howard de Walden) P Walwyn 9-0 ... R Cochrane 85
507 (8) 00-01 CIRCUS COLOURS 21 (G) (Exors of Sir Robin McAlpine) J Dunlop 8-11 Pat Eddery [illegible]
508 (4) 0421-24 WARM SPELL 5 (BF,G) (K Higson) R Simpson 8-7 ... B Rouse 85
509 (7) 000-3 PENNINE LAD 12 (B Gubby Ltd) B Gubby 8-7 ... D Harrison (3) 80

Long handicap: Warm Spell 8-4, Pennine Lad 7-11.

BETTING: 9-4 Circus Colours, 3-1 League Leader, 5-1 Marros Mill, 6-1 Major Yaasi, 8-1 Warm Spell, 12-1 others

1992: FRAGRANT HILL 4-9-12 R Cochrane (7-2) I Balding 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

MAJOR YAASI beat Bay Queen head in 14-runner Salisbury (1m 2f, firm) handicap. BONAR BRIDGE 11¼l 4th of 14 to Master Charlie in Salisbury (1m 4f, firm) maiden. MARROS MILL beat High Summer 2l in 7-runner handicap over course and distance (good). LEAGUE LEADER beat Key To My Heart neck in 8-runner Chester (1m 4f 66yd, good to firm) handicap. CIRCUS COLOURS beat Shirley Rose 4l in 11-runner Ripon (1m 2f, good) maiden. WARM SPELL 5½l 4th to Moon Carnival in Windsor (1m 3f 110yd, good to firm) handicap. PENNINE LAD 3l 3rd of 19 to Mr Genealogy in Kempton (1m 4f, good to firm) seller.

Selection: CIRCUS COLOURS (nap)

4.30 TERRY DRISCOLL MAIDEN STAKES
(3-Y-O: £3,757: 1m 2f 6yd) (21 runners)

601 (11) 2- BAMBURGH 214 (Maktoum Al Maktoum) M Stoute 9-0 ... B Raymond 96
602 (14) BERING ISLAND (K Abdulla) G Harwood 9-0 ... Pat Eddery –
603 (6) 0-0 CALIBRATE 12 (N Stafford) B Meehan 9-0 ... B Rouse 78
604 (20) 235-3 DARECLIFF 12 (A Lalor) R Hannon 9-0 ... J Reid [illegible]
605 (8) 0-0 DARMSTADT 16 (Shaikh Mohammed) J Gosden 9-0 ... R Cochrane 77
606 (15) 08 ELEGANT HUSSAR 7 (Lady Kennard) C Brittain 9-0 ... B Doyle (3) 80
607 (21) 6- GEORGE DILLINGHAM 219 (Mrs P Harris) P Harris 9-0 ... N Adams 71
608 (9) 00- GRADIENT 214 (Lord Howard de Walden) Mrs J Cecil 9-0 ... T Quinn 75
609 (3) 0035-22 GRAND APPLAUSE 12 (M Lawn) R Simpson 9-0 ... S Whitworth 86
610 (12) 0-0 KEDGE 11 (T Holland-Martin) R Johnson Houghton 9-0 ... M Perrett –
611 (16) 6 MONSIGNOR PAT 9 (M Poland) H Cecil 9-0 ... A McGlone 80
612 (1) 00 MOULTAZIM 16 (Maktoum Al Maktoum) A Scott 9-0 ... A Munro –
613 (5) 65- RIVIERE ACTOR 236 (S Khaled) J Dunlop 9-0 ... S Raymont 89
614 (2) SCORPIUS (Shaikh Mohammed) M Stoute 9-0 ... Paul Eddery –
615 (17) 0 SIMPLY A HERO 16 (Mrs M Slade) D Elsworth 9-0 ... J Williams 70
616 (7) 0- SPANISH SAHARA 212 (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 9-0 ... Stephen Davies (5) –
617 (18) TARFSIDE (G Smart) I Balding 9-0 ... L Dettori –
618 (10) 80 TEACHER 21 (Mana Al Maktoum) A Scott 9-0 ... J Tate (7) 77
619 (19) CHARLOTTE DUNDAS (Shaikh Mohammed) J Gosden 8-9 ... D Holland –
620 (13) CUTLASS (Lord Weinstock) W Hern 8-9 ... R Hills –
621 (4) 6-0 SEA SIREN 22 (P Goulandris) H Candy 8-9 ... W Newnes 95

BETTING: 3-1 Bamburgh, 9-2 Riviere Actor, 5-1 Tarfside, 7-1 Charlotte Dundas, 8-1 Darecliff, 10-1 others.

1992: SURF 9-0 M Roberts (3-1 fav) Mrs J Cecil 16 ran

FORM FOCUS

BAMBURGH 3l 2nd to Gabr in Leicester (7f, good to soft) maiden. DARECLIFF 2½l 3rd to Dramanice in Kempton (1m, good to firm) maiden with CALIBRATE 10½l 15th. DARMSTADT 14l 13th to Wagon Master in Newmarket (1m, good) maiden with MOULTAZIM 8l 18th. GRAND APPLAUSE 5l 2nd to American Swinger in Kempton (1m 1f, good to firm) handicap. MONSIGNOR PAT 6¾l 6th of 14 to Exhibit Air in Brighton (1m 2f, firm) maiden. RIVIERE ACTOR 6¾l 6th of 13 to Bagalino in Nottingham (1m, good to firm) maiden.

Selection: BAMBURGH

5.00 POULTER 25th ANNIVERSARY HANDICAP
(£5,572: 1m 7yd rnd) (17 runners)

1 (9) 100200- CLAYBANK 196 (G) (D Smurfit) B Hills 4-10-0 ... D Holland 91
2 (5) 15600-0 MISS HAGGIS 12 (D,F,G) (P Asquith) R Boss 4-9-12 ... Pat Eddery 89
3 (14) 20U4-00 MOUGINS 22 (G) (R Tooth) D Elsworth 4-9-12 ... J Williams 93
4 (10) 124000- PIQUANT 210 (D,F,G,S) (The Queen) Lord Huntingdon 6-9-11 ... B Raymond 89
5 (2) 2322-15 MARASTANI 22 (D,F) (C Hadigan) G Harwood 3-9-6 ... J Reid 91
6 (4) 002-001 BUZZARDS BELLBUOY 12 (D,G,S) (N Gardner) H Collingridge 4-9-6 ... J Quinn 95
7 (8) 128/0-01 WALKING THE PLANK 21 (D,G) (M White) P Walwyn 4-9-6 ... R Cochrane 98
8 (1) 41301-2 JADE VALE 21 (D,F,G) (Mrs S Bosher) J Hills 4-9-4 ... D Harrison (3) 98
9 (16) 20060-0 WAVE HILL 22 (D,F,G) (J Whelan) P Hedger 4-9-3 ... M Perrett [illegible]
10 (15) 340-642 HOPEFUL BID 8 (F) (N Capon) R Hannon 4-9-0 ... Mark Denaro (7) 96
11 (13) 1420-40 BRANDONHURST 21 (F) (R Michaelson) I Balding 3-8-12 ... Stephen Davies (5) 91
12 (12) 5000-14 LITTLE ROUSILLON 17 (D,S) (Fayzad Thoroughbred Ltd) W Muir 5-8-12 T Quinn 95
13 (3) 0/510- ALBEMINE 12J (D,S) (P Burrell) Mrs J Cecil 4-8-12 ... Paul Eddery 98
14 (17) 35100-6 LOUISVILLE BELLE 33 (C,G) (Mrs M Pearson) M Usher 4-8-11 ... N Adams 89
15 (6) 440306- WILL SOON 205 (H Candy) H Candy 4-8-11 ... Antoinette Armes (7) 88
16 (7) 2245-45 VANBOROUGH LAD 16 (G,S) (Mrs M Day) M Haynes 4-8-8 ... D Biggs 92
17 (11) 0200-64 CHANDIGARH 19 (M Broke) R Lee 5-7-12 ... A Tucker (3) 97

BETTING: 6-1 Jade Vale, 8-1 Buzzards Bellbuoy, Walking The Plank, 10-1 Albemine, Marastani, 12-1 others.

1992: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

MARASTANI 3½l 5th of 16 to Camden's Ransom in Sandown (1m 2f, good) handicap with WAVE HILL (12lb better off) 9½l 10th and MOUGINS (13lb better off) 9l 15th. BUZZARDS BELLBUOY beat Mister Hyde short-head in Doncaster (1m, good) handicap. WALKING THE PLANK ... JADE VALE (1lb better off) neck in Leicester (1m, good) handicap. HOPEFUL BID neck 2nd to Soaking in Lingfield (7f 110yd, good to firm) rated stakes. LITTLE ROUSILLON 2l 4th to Tender Moment in valuable Ascot (7f, good) handicap

Selection: BUZZARDS BELLBUOY

THIRSK

THUNDERER

2.15 Fair To The Wind. 2.45 Dance Of The Swans. 3.15 Gant Bleu. 3.45 Mutakallam. 4.15 Miss Aragon. 4.45 Bella Parkes. 5.15 First Option.

GOING: SOFT (INSPECTION 7AM) SIS
DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.15 ELMIRE MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES
(3-Y-O: £3,435: 1m 4f) (10 runners)

1 00-5 BLUSHING BARADA 21 A Scott 8-11 ... J Fortune 7
2 4-5 CROMARTY 21 H Cecil 8-11 ... W Ryan 8
3 0 ELA BILLANTE 21 J Fanshawe 8-11 ... P Robinson 5
4 4 FAIR TO THE WIND 14 M Stoute 8-11 ... M Birch 4
5 00- FOLLINGWORTH GIRL 189 S Norton 8-11 ... O Pears (5) 10
6 HIGHLAND PRINCESS B Beasley 8-11 ... L Charnock 3
7 50- MEANT TO BE 198 D Loder 8-11 ... M Tebbutt 1
8 0- RESTRAINT 204 P Calver 8-11 ... N Carlisle 2
9 0-6 ROSE NOBLE 14 W Jarvis 8-11 ... J Carroll 6
10 0- WAKT 198 D Morley 8-11 ... W Carson 9

9-4 Cromarty, 11-4 Fair To The Wind, 9-2 Ela Billante, 6-1 Blushing Barada, 8-1 Rose Noble, 12-1 Wakt, 14-1 others

2.45 SKIPTON CLAIMING STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,709: 5f) (8)

1 CONEY HILLS R Whitaker 8-6 ... G Parkin (7) 6
2 1 DANCE OF THE SWANS 21 (D,G) P Haslam 8-6 ... Dean McKeown 5
3 0 STUDFORD GIRL 12 M W Easterby 8-5 ... T Lucas 4
4 1 SURPRISE BREEZE 8 (D,F) R Whitaker 8-4 ... A Culhane 3
5 400 SALTPETRE 19 M Brittain 8-3 ... J Marshall (7) 8
6 4 LUNAR RHAPSODY 8 M W Easterby 8-2 ... L Charnock 1
7 5 CARAPELLE 42 M H Easterby 8-0 ... S Maloney (3) 2
8 00 KISS NO TELL 7 (B) G Pritchard-Gordon 7-10 ... D Wright (7) 7

2-1 Dance Of The Swans, 3-1 Surprise Breeze, 9-2 Carapelle, 7-1 Lunar Rhapsody, 8-1 Studford Girl, 12-1 others

3.15 DIBB LUPTON BROOMHEAD CUP
(Handicap: £15,400: 7f) (16)

1 0-60 TAUFAN BLU 21 (B,F,G,S) B Beasley 4-10-0 ... O Pears (5) 12
2 -403 EURO FESTIVAL 3 (D,F,G) Miss L Siddall 4-9-12 ... Dean McKeown 8
3 50-3 HERORA 31 (F,G) N Graham 4-9-9 ... NON-RUNNER 16
4 0-05 FINJAN 9 (D,F) M Wane 6-9-8 ... L Charnock 1
5 4-53 EN ATTENDANT 12 (D,BF,F,G) B Hanbury 5-9-5 ... W Ryan 4
6 -030 DENSBEN 14 (C,F,G,S) Denys Smith 9-9-4 ... K Fallon 2
7 0-20 SO RHYTHMICAL 22 (D,F,G,S) G Eden 9-9-3 ... Darren Moffatt (5) 5
8 -441 FOREVER DIAMONDS 14 (C,F,G,S) M H Easterby 6-9-3 ... M Birch 6
9 -210 SHIKARI'S SON 17 (D,F,G) J White 6-9-2 ... P Robinson 9
10 000- POETS COVE 256 (C,F,S) M McCormack 5-9-0 ... A Clark 14
11 -211 HI NOD 2 (CD,F,G) M Camacho 3-8-4 (6ex) ... N Connorton 10
12 0512 BLUE GRIT 8 (D,BF,F,G,S) M Dods 7-8-1 ... NON-RUNNER 7
13 3021 CEE-JAY-AY 9 (D,F,G,S) J Berry 6-8-0 ... J Carroll 13
14 -010 GANT BLEU 14 (CD,F,G,S) R Whitaker 6-7-12 ... Dale Gibson 15
15 500- THE CAN CAN MAN 39J (CD,F,G) M Johnston 6-7-11 ... NON-RUNNER 3
16 00-0 YOUNG VALENTINE 5 (F) R Whitaker 4-7-7 ... N Carlisle 11

9-2 Hi Nod, 6-1 En Attendant, 7-1 Forever Diamonds, 8-1 Euro Festival, 9-1 Cee-Jay-Ay, 10-1 Gant Bleu, 12-1 Densben, 14-1 Poets Cove, Finjan, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M McCormack, 4 winners from 8 runners, 50%; J Dunlop, 7 from 15, 46.7%; R Hannon, 4 from 10, 40%; W Jarvis, 4 from 11, 36.4%; J Wharton, 5 from 14, 35.7%; H Cecil, 8 from 25, 32.0%.

JOCKEYS: C Munday, 3 winners from 3 rides, 100%; M Tebbutt, 4 from 16, 25.0%; G Carter, 12 from 61, 19.7%; M Birch, 28 from 158, 16.5%; S Wood, 9 from 66, 13.6%; S Perks, 7 from 52, 13.5%.

3.45 EASINGWOLD RATING RELATED MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £3,106: 1m) (10)

1 008- BOLLIN DUNCAN 219 M H Easterby 9-0 ... M Birch 7
2 003- CUTTHROAT KID 211 S Norton 9-0 ... O Pears (5) 4
3 04-3 GENSERIC 18 R Armstrong 9-0 ... W Carson 1
4 403- MUTAKALLAM 252 H Thomson Jones 9-0 ... N Carlisle 2
5 3242 PANTHER 8 J Hetherton 9-0 ... N Kennedy (3) 3
6 0-00 SPECIAL DAWN 26 J Dunlop 9-0 ... W Ryan 10
7 60-6 STORM VENTURE 19 W Jarvis 9-0 ... M Tebbutt 8
8 2-00 LADY GAIL 19 J Spearing 8-9 ... A Mackay 5
9 54-0 ROCK THE BOAT 16 R Hannon 8-9 ... A Mackay 6
10 53-0 STYLISH ROSE 50 P Cheesbrough 8-9 ... J Lowe 9

5-2 Genseric, 7-2 Mutakallam, 5-1 Panther, 8-1 Cutthroat Kid, Special Dawn, 10-1 Rock The Boat, 12-1 Bollin Duncan, 14-1 others.

4.15 DICK PEACOCK SPRINT HANDICAP
(£4,110: 6f) (17)

1 125- FLASHY'S SON 241 (D,F,G) M Hammond 5-9-10 ... M Tebbutt 8
2 1-00 COOLABA PRINCE 12 (D,BF,G,S) F Lee 4-9-10 ... W Carson 5
3 2035 PRETONIC 7 (D,F,G) M Johnston 5-9-8 ... NON-RUNNER 10
4 -004 FIRST GOLD 12 (B,D,F,S) J Wharton 4-9-8 ... M Birch 14
5 0-10 LANGUEDOC 14 (D,G,S) Martyn Wane 6-9-8 ... L Charnock 12
6 151- NORDAN RAIDER 207 (D,F,S) M Camacho 5-9-6 N Connorton 2
7 0-03 AYR RAIDER 9 (V,D,F,G) Miss L Perratt 6-9-6 NON-RUNNER 11
8 60-5 FIGHTER SQUADRON 14 (B,F,G) J Glover 4-9-5 ... S D Williams (3) 4
9 0-05 MASTER POKEY 8 (C,D,F,G,S) M W Easterby 9-9-3 ... T Lucas 1
10 -203 SARTIGILA 8 (BF) M Hammond 4-9-3 ... G Carter 7
11 3331 BALLAD DANCER 5 (D,G,S) Mrs P Barker 8-9-3 (7ex) ... Darren Moffatt (5) 16
12 0-60 PARFAIT AMOUR 38 (D,F) R Whitaker 4-9-2 ... A Culhane 9
13 2-06 DAYTONA BEACH 37 (D,G) R Hollinshead 3-9-1 ... S Perks 3
14 0-00 BEST EFFORT 10 (CD,F,S) M Naughton 7-9-0 ... K Fallon 6
15 22-0 CRAIGIE BOY 19 N Bycroft 3-8-12 ... Alex Greaves 13
16 3-01 MISS ARAGON 8 (D,G) Miss L Siddall 5-8-12 ... P Robinson 15
17 0-61 SOBERING THOUGHTS 9 (D,G) J Eyre 7-8-3 ... J Lowe 17

5-1 Miss Aragon, 6-1 Sartigila, 7-1 Fighter Squadron, 8-1 Master Pokey, 10-1 Nordan Raider, Best Effort, 12-1 Coolaba Prince, 14-1 Ballad Dancer, 16-1 others.

4.45 EBF CARLTON MINIOTT MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,699: 5f) (17)

1 24 BELLA PARKES 9 J Berry 8-11 ... G Carter 12
2 3 BESCABY GIRL 8 J Wainwright 8-11 ... L Charnock 11
3 CELTIC GOVERNESS J Balding 8-11 ... Claire Balding (7) 9
4 FAIREY FIREFLY M Camacho 8-11 ... N Connorton 7
5 FAIR SWOP M H Easterby 8-11 ... M Birch 10
6 6 FUSSY SIOUX 12 M W Easterby 8-11 ... T Lucas 13
7 GREY TOPPA Denys Smith 8-11 ... K Fallon 16
8 0 HOTCROFT 21 R Whitaker 8-11 ... A Culhane 17
9 2 KANGRA VALLEY 19 J Wharton 8-11 ... Dean McKeown 15
10 KAYDARAJ M H Easterby 8-11 ... S Maloney (3) 8
11 LADY RISKY R Hannon 8-11 ... D Gibbs (7) 2
12 LUCKY LIZZY M Brittain 8-11 ... M Wigham 6
13 SHARP SUMMIT B Rothwell 8-11 ... S Wood 5
14 TAMAR'S BRIGADE M McCormack 8-11 ... A Clark 4
15 THREE OF HEARTS J Eyre 8-11 ... M Humphries (7) 3
16 54 TILQUHILLIE ROSE 7 M W Easterby 8-11 ... C Munday (7) 1
17 TREAD THE BOARDS T Barron 8-11 ... W Ryan 14

3-1 Bella Parkes, 5-1 Bescaby Girl, 6-1 Kangra Valley, 8-1 Fair Swop, 10-1 Lady Risky, 12-1 Tilquhillie Rose, Tread The Boards, Fussy Sioux, 14-1 others.

5.15 BET WITH THE TOTE HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £5,117: 5f) (10)

1 2-34 MISTERTOPOGIGO 10 (D,BF,F) B Beasley 9-7 ... O Pears (5) 4
2 12-0 BENZOE 14 (S) M W Easterby 9-5 ... T Lucas 7
3 14-2 LAUREL DELIGHT 37 (D,BF,F,G) J Berry 9-3 ... G Carter 9
4 6-11 MAGIC ORB 21 (D,G,S) J Spearing 8-10 ... A Mackay 6
5 1-11 DAILYSPORTDUTCH 12 (D,F,G,S) Miss G Kelleway 8-9 ... N Carlisle 3
6 50-1 TRUE PRECISION 19 (D,S) J Bethell 8-8 ... W Carson 2
7 12-0 FIRST OPTION 19 (D,F,G,S) M H Easterby 8-5 ... M Birch 5
8 -310 ASHGORE 21 (C,BF,G) M Johnston 8-1 ... NON-RUNNER 10
9 2-32 PLUM FIRST 12 (B,C,F) N Bycroft 8-0 ... S Maloney (3) 1
10 10-0 CALL ME I'M BLUE 21 (G) N Tinkler 7-12 ... L Charnock 8

3-1 True Precision, 4-1 Magic Orb, 5-1 Laurel Delight, 6-1 First Option, 7-1 Dailysportdutch, Mistertopogigo, 10-1 Benzoe, 14-1 others.

HAMILTON PARK

THUNDERER

6.20 Shuttlecock. 6.50 Just Bob. 7.20 Isabella Sharp. 7.50 Aragon Ayr. 8.20 Shirley Rose. 8.50 Hot Star.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 7.20 ISABELLA SHARP (nap).

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT SIS
DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

6.20 HORSELL ANITEC CLAIMING STAKES
(2-Y-O: £1,847: 6f 5yd) (4 runners)

1 11 JIMMY THE SKUNK 15 (C,F,S) J Berry 9-0 ... J Carroll 3
2 5 FORREST MASTER 10 Miss L Perratt 8-6 ... J Fortune 1
3 05 SHUTTLECOCK 3 P Haslam 8-6 ... Dale Gibson 4
4 4 KING ACRYLIC 15 R Fisher 8-2 ... C Avery 2

4-5 Jimmy The Skunk, 3-1 Shuttlecock, 5-1 Forrest Master, 10-1 King Acrylic.

6.50 LEGGAT PLANT AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP (£1,730: 5f 4yd) (12)

1 0011 JUST BOB 10 (CD,F,G) S Kettlewell 4-11-7 Mrs D Kettlewell (5) 6
2 000- STATE FLYER 198 (V,C,G,S) G Oldroyd 5-11-2 ... S Walker (7) 7
3 0040 DIET 8 (V,C,D,F,G,S) Miss L Perratt 7-11-0 ... R Hale 11
4 -500 WE'RE ALL GAME 12 (D,S) B Morgan 4-10-12 Miss S Baxter 3
5 -444 LANGTONIAN 10 (C,S) J Berry 4-10-11 ... D Parker 5
6 5310 TOMMY TEMPEST 18 (D,S) K Burke 4-10-6 ... Miss E Mills (7) 4
7 3/05 LILY'S LOVER 75 (G) D Burchell 7-10-5 ... N Miles (3) 1
8 80-3 FRANCIS ANN 15 (CD,S) Miss L Perratt 5-10-5 M Buckley (5) 12
9 0505 KHALLOOF 9 (B,G) Denys Smith 4-10-3 ... Miss M Carson (7) 2
10 40-0 VERRO 44 (B,CD,G,S) J Bennett 6-9-8 ... Miss A Purdy (5) 10
11 4500 CHOICE LOT 8 (B,D,F) A Jones 6-9-8 ... Miss I Diana W Jones 9
12 06-0 MINSK 10 T Craig 7-9-7 ... Miss F Barnes (7) 8

3-1 Just Bob, 4-1 Langtonian, 5-1 Tommy Tempest, 6-1 Diet, 8-1 Lily's Lover, Francis Ann, 12-1 Verro, 14-1 others.

7.20 PETER YARWOOD MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,172: 5f 4yd) (6)

1 ALTOBY E Alston 9-0 ... S Webster 4
2 BRAILLE M Johnston 9-0 ... Dean McKeown 1
3 KING RAT M Johnston 9-0 ... J Lowe 3
4 LUCIUS LOCKET J Berry 9-0 ... J Carroll 6
5 42 ISABELLA SHARP 12 (BF) M Bell 8-9 ... J Fortune 2
6 TIME TO DANCE G Moore 8-9 ... J Weaver (3) 5

4-5 Isabella Sharp, 4-1 Lucius Locket, 6-1 Braille, 10-1 King Rat, 12-1 others.

7.50 CONTRACTORS MECHANICAL PLANT ENGINEERS SELLING HANDICAP
(£1,702: 1m 3f 16yd) (11)

1 0434 GOLD SURPRISE 10 (BF) S Kettlewell 4-9-10 ... J Fortune 7
2 004- ABSOLUTELY RIGHT 72J (G) J White 5-9-7 ... Dale Gibson 5
3 5650 LORD ADVOCATE 10 (V,G) M Naughton 5-8-13 ... K Fallon 9
4 3-00 EVERGREEN TANGO 7 M Johnston 3-8-8 ... Dean McKeown 6
5 /0-04 BEAUMOOD 16 (V,C,F,G,S) E Alston 7-8-7 ... J Weaver (3) 3
6 1-00 DRINKS PARTY 25 (B,D,F,S) M Charles 5-8-6 ... J Lowe 1
7 3154 GOODBYE MILLIE 19 (F,G) S Norton 3-8-5 Darren Moffatt (5) 2
8 0-50 DOOGAREY 9 J White 3-8-3 ... C Avery 10
9 00-0 ARAGON AYR 16 P Monteith 5-8-1 ... J Carroll 8
10 4-55 SENSABO 10 Mrs S Bradburne 3-7-12 ... Dale Gibson 11
11 00- BIJOU PRINCESS 257 A Bailey 5-7-10 ... D Wright (7) 4

11-4 Goodbye Millie, 7-2 Gold Surprise, 5-1 Aragon Ayr, 7-1 Drinks Party, Lord Advocate, 10-1 Beaumood, 12-1 Absolutely Right, 14-1 others.

8.20 LINDSAY PLANT RATING RELATED MAIDEN STAKES (£2,427: 1m 4f 17yd) (7)

1 500- MATHAL 311 J White 4-9-10 ... C Avery 6
2 60/4/ OLD DEFENSIBLE 504J S Payne 5-9-10 ... S Webster 4
3 0-34 MOONLIGHT ECLIPSE 31 E Alston 3-8-5 ... K Fallon 7
4 60-0 SHARE A MOMENT 21 R Hollinshead 3-8-5 ... A Garth (5) 3
5 -654 VOLUNTEER POINT 12 Mrs S Bramall 3-8-5 ... J Fortune 5
6 0622 MOUNTAIN WILLOW 19 (V,BF) Mrs A Swinbank 3-8-0 J Lowe 1
7 50-2 SHIRLEY ROSE 21 M Johnston 3-8-0 ... J Fanning 2

4-5 Shirley Rose, 7-2 Share A Moment, 7-1 Moonlight Eclipse, 10-1 others

8.50 LUDDON CONSTRUCTION HANDICAP
(£2,616: 1m 5f 9yd) (9)

1 1000 MENTALASANYTHIN 11 (C,G,S) A Bailey 4-9-10 ... A Mackay 2
2 6541 CONTINUITY 8 (G) E Alston 4-9-9 ... J Weaver (3) 9
3 4050/ BEACHY HEAD 23J (S) J J O'Neill 5-9-8 ... J Carroll 1
4 0/0-0 ONE FOR THE POT 14J (C,D,F,G,S) M Naughton 8-9-8 K Fallon 4
5 2-425 HOT STAR 21 (D,S) G Moore 7-9-1 ... J Fanning 6
6 1-00 FAMOUS BEAUTY 18 (F,G,S) R Hollinshead 6-8-10 L Aspell (7) 7
7 0-11 SHAMSHOM AL ARAB 8 (C,F,S) S Norton 5-8-10 ... Darren Moffatt (5) 3
8 542- SUNSET REINS FREE 186J (V,C,G,S) S Payne 8-8-1 J Lowe 5
9 30-6 RAPID MOVER 10 (B) T Craig 6-7-7 ... D Wright (7) 8

9-4 Shamshom Al Arab, 7-2 Beachy Head, 5-1 Hot Star, 6-1 Continuity, 7-1 One For The Pot, 10-1 Famous Beauty, 12-1 Mentalasanythin, 14-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Bell, 7 winners from 26 runners, 26.9%; J Berry, 49 from 241, 20.3%; S Norton, 11 from 63, 17.5%; M Johnston, 19 from 112, 17.0%; D Burchell, 4 from 25, 16.0%; P Haslam, 7 from 50, 14%

JOCKEYS: J Carroll, 41 winners from 197 rides, 20.8%; Dean McKeown, 34 from 195, 17.4%; J Weaver, 5 from 29, 17.2%; J Fanning, 16 from 112, 14.3%; Darren Moffatt, 4 from 31, 12.9%.

Blinkered first time

HAMILTON: 7.50 Drinks Party. LINGFIELD: 6.05 Inderaputeri, 7.35 Agil's Pet. NEWBURY: 3.30 Pharaoh's Dancer. SOUTHWELL: 1.25 Raggerty, Glowing Path. THIRSK: 2.45 Kiss No Tell.

□ The first four in the Kentucky Derby — Sea Hero, Prairie Bayou, Wild Gale and Personal Hope — meet in the Preakness Stakes at Pimlico today.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

6.05 Cheat. 6.35 Arctic Guest. 7.05 Soaking. 7.35 Face The Future. 8.05 Mithi Al Gamar. 8.35 One Off The Rail.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 6.05 Putout.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (TURF); STANDARD (ALL-WEATHER) DRAW: 6F-7F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST SIS

6.05 BLUE MAX MAIDEN STAKES
(3-Y-O: £3,669: 6f) (11 runners)

1 CHEAT W Haggas 9-0 ... N Day 11
2 3024 FRIENDLY BRAVE 10 (B) T Mills 9-0 ... W Newnes 8
3 6-0 LOCH PATRICK 10 L Holt 9-0 ... A McGlone 10
4 0-0 PERSIAN CHIMES 14 G Pritchard-Gordon 9-0 ... W Hood 7
5 -230 ROYAL INTERVAL 9 W G M Turner 9-0 ... T Sprake 5
6 60 TARTIB 14 C Benstead 9-0 ... R Hills 6
7 00-5 ASCOM PAGER 19 P Howling 8-9 ... C Rutter 9
8 30-5 INDERAPUTERI 14 (B) Miss G Kelleway 8-9 ... A Munro 1
9 MAI-TU-TU T McGovern 8-9 ... R Price 2
10 NANQUIDNO J Bennett 8-9 ... G Bardwell 3
11 42 PUTOUT 14 Mrs J Cecil 8-9 ... L Dettori 4

6-4 Putout, 7-2 Friendly Brave, 6-1 Cheat, 8-1 Inderaputeri, 10-1 Loch Patrick, Royal Interval, 12-1 others

6.35 CIDER SELLING STAKES
(All-weather: 3-Y-O: £2,454: 1m 4f) (6)

1 1220 ARCTIC GUEST 19 (D,F,G) M Johnston 9-0 ... T Williams 2
2 00-0 RUBIDIAN 38 M Prescott 9-0 ... T Quinn 3
3 0000 THREEOFUS 19 (B) K Ivory 9-0 ... R Cochrane 1
4 50 TOP GUNNER 37 C Cyzer 9-0 ... D Biggs 6
5 50 DANSEUSE FRANCAISE 12 M Bell 8-9 ... R Adams (7) 4
6 40-3 SASSAMOUSE 8 R Guest 8-9 ... W Woods 5

5-4 Arctic Guest, 3-1 Sassamouse, 5-1 Rubidian, 8-1 Danseuse Francaise, Top Gunner, 16-1 Threeofus.

7.05 OASTWELL WINES HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £3,288: 7f) (14)

1 6563 I'LLEAVEITOYOU 7 (C,G) S Dow 9-7 ... T Quinn 10
2 -031 WALNUT BURL 7 (CD,F) L Holt 9-4 ... J Reid 3
3 12-0 FORMAL AFFAIR 32 (D,G) C Cyzer 9-4 ... D Biggs 4
4 0-10 MY BEST VALENTINE 14 (D,F) P Harris 9-0 ... Paul Eddery 5
5 10-1 SOAKING 8 (CD,F) G Moore 8-11 ... B Rouse 13
6 0-21 FINAL FRONTIER 12 (D,F) R Akehurst 8-11 ... R Cochrane 7
7 -220 EXCESS BAGGAGE 15 (CD,G) N Callaghan 8-5 ... B Raymond 2
8 05-0 PERDITION 19 J Hills 8-3 ... R Hills 12
9 0-53 RAGING THUNDER 19 (B) G Lewis 8-3 ... D Harrison (3) 11
10 63-0 QUEENS CONTRACTOR 18 M Heaton-Ellis 8-2 ... D Holland 1
11 0-30 ON GOLDEN POND 18 P Cole 8-1 ... A Munro 6
12 04-6 FIVEOFIVE 9 (F) N Callaghan 8-0 ... J Quinn 8
13 543- FIELD OF VISION 232 (F) M Johnston 7-11 ... T Williams 14
14 005- ICE REBEL 201 Miss B Sanders 7-7 ... G Bardwell 9

7-2 Soaking, 5-1 Raging Thunder, Walnut Burl, 6-1 I'lleaveitoyou, 8-1 Field Of Vision, Formal Affair, 10-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: J Hills, 5 winners from 18 runners, 27.8%; M Prescott, 9 from 36, 25%; N Callaghan, 7 from 29, 24.1%; P Cole, 18 from 77, 23.4%; M Stoute, 10 from 46, 21.7%; G Harwood, 14 from 65, 21.5%.

JOCKEYS: L Dettori, 17 winners from 76 rides, 22.4%; Reid, 27 from 127, 21.3%; R Cochrane, 24 from 127, 18.9%; R Hills, 10 from 53, 18.9%; B Raymond, 13 from 77, 16.9%; T Quinn, 26 from 163, 16%

7.35 G M BENEFIT CONSULTANTS HANDICAP
(£3,150: 6f) (16)

1 06-5 FAY'S SONG 16 (CD,F,G) R Akehurst 5-9-10 ... T Quinn 4
2 0003 HARDLINER 7 (CD,F) C Wall 4-9-10 ... W Woods 12
3 000- MERRYHILL MAID 224 (C,D,F,G) J Harris 5-9-6 R Cochrane 13
4 420- SPRING HIGH 240 (D,F,G) K Ivory 6-9-5 ... G Bardwell 10
5 3-33 NO EXTRAS 12 (V,D,G) G Moore 3-9-5 ... B Rouse 1
6 4100 HARRY'S COMING 7 (CD,F,G,S) R Hodges 9-9-5 . T Sprake 11
7 0-43 FACE THE FUTURE 16 (BF) P Harris 4-9-4 ... Paul Eddery 9
8 50-0 MY RUBY RING 16 (D,F,G,S) D Laing 6-9-0 ... T Williams 16
9 0020 QUICK STEEL 7 (D,G,S) T McGovern 5-8-13 ... A Tucker (3) 14
10 000- WILD STRAWBERRY 214 (D,G) A Campion 4-8-10 ... J Reid 8
11 00-0 JULIET BRAVO 12 (F) J Fanshawe 3-8-9 ... A Munro 2
12 000- FAIR ENCHANTRESS 169 (F) J Bennett 5-8-6 ... D Holland 3
13 0-00 AGIL'S PET 7 (B,BF) J Sutcliffe 3-8-2 ... D Harrison (3) 7
14 0-00 OYSTON'S LIFE 18 (F) R Phillips 4-8-0 ... C Rutter 5
15 5-00 ARRAS ROYALE 16 J Long 3-7-8 ... N Adams 15
16 0000 LOOTING 15 (CD,F,G,S) M Usher 7-7-7 ... J Quinn 6

9-2 Fay's Song, 5-1 Face The Future, 6-1 Hardliner, No Extras, 8-1 My Ruby Ring, Quick Steel, 10-1 others.

8.05 ASHBOURNE WATER MAIDEN STAKES
(£3,640: 7f) (14)

1 0 ISLAND KNIGHT 23 M Ryan 4-9-10 ... R Cochrane 7
2 20- WHATEVER'S RIGHT 201 M Usher 4-9-10 ... N Adams 13
3 0 BALE BREAKER 16 W Haggas 3-8-12 ... N Day 1
4 0 BRAVE HERO 12 C Cyzer 3-8-12 ... D Biggs 6
5 CLEVER MINSTREL G Harwood 3-8-12 ... M Perrett 5
6 0 D SEVEN 21 H Collingridge 3-8-12 ... V Smith 10
7 DYNAMIC GEORGE N Callaghan 3-8-12 ... W Newnes 9
8 8 FINDON ACADEMY 7 G Moore 3-8-12 ... B Rouse 3
9 2022 GRAN SENORUM 7 (BF) P Cole 3-8-12 ... A Munro 14
10 2-6 KHATTAT 35 (BF) J Dunlop 3-8-12 ... R Hills 8
11 LITTLE MISS RIBOT R O'Sullivan 3-8-7 ... J Reid 4
12 0-4 MITHI AL GAMAR 14 M Stoute 3-8-7 ... B Raymond 12
13 60 NO GAIN 70 B Smart 3-8-7 ... Kim McDonnell (7) 11
14 0-0 TASSAGH BRIDGE 7 J Payne 3-8-7 ... J Quinn 2

3-1 Gran Senorum, 7-2 Mithi Al Gamar, 4-1 Khattat, 8-1 Island Knight, 10-1 Bale Breaker, 12-1 Whatever's Right, 14-1 others.

8.35 GIN & TONIC HANDICAP
(All-weather: 3-Y-O: £2,831: 1m 2f) (8)

1 -035 CONVOY 42 (B,C,G) W Muir 9-7 ... T Quinn 7
2 22-0 ONE OFF THE RAIL 9 A Moore 9-6 ... B Rouse 6
3 3-00 STALLED 16 P Walwyn 9-3 ... R Cochrane 1
4 -420 WITHOUT A FLAG 18 (BF) C Cyzer 9-2 ... D Biggs 3
5 1360 TAKE YOUR PARTNER 15 (C,G) M Johnston 9-1 ... T Williams 8
6 -340 CHILTERN HUNDREDS 37 W Musson 9-1 ... D McCabe (7) 4
7 06-6 SO SAUCY 7 B Meehan 8-9 ... R Hills 2
8 0-50 LEGAL ARTIST 18 N Graham 8-6 ... G Bardwell 5

3-1 Take Your Partner, 7-2 Without A Flag, 4-1 One Off The Rail, 5-1 Convoy, 6-1 Chiltern Hundreds, 10-1 Stalled, 12-1 others

Racing next week

MONDAY: Bath, Edinburgh.
TUESDAY: Beverley, Goodwood.
WEDNESDAY: Goodwood, Nottingham, Worcester
THURSDAY: Goodwood, Newcastle, Exeter, †Perth, †Uttoxeter.
FRIDAY: Catterick, Hamilton, Newmarket, †Stratford.
SATURDAY: Ayr, †Carlisle, Catterick Bridge, Lingfield Park, Newmarket, †Southwell, †Warwick
(Flat meetings in bold)
† denotes evening meeting

Saturday portrait: Tony Adams, by Andrew Longmore

Terrace donkey who adds thoroughbred strength to Arsenal

ILLUSTRATION: STEVE MARTIN



If Tony Adams lifts the FA Cup aloft this afternoon, the only audible sounds outside cheering distance of Wembley will be the click of the off button on a million television sets and the muttered oaths of the uncommitted. Another trophy for Arsenal; another body-blow to elegance and style; another industrial blot on the already pock-marked landscape of English football.

Arsenal prompt such prejudices and, whether he likes it or not, the contorted face and clenched fist of Tony Adams, their captain, has done more than anything to fashion them. Adams has become the epitome of Arsenal man. Rough, tough, uncultured, the leader of a street-fighting football team and the owner of a record which includes two league titles, two League Cups, 23 England caps and a 57-day spell of detention at her majesty's pleasure.

He is utterly loyal to the club which first took him on under the Youth Training Scheme ten years ago, at the age of 16, has captained them for the last five years and is part of the furniture to such an extent that the tabloids have long since given up any transfer speculation. Adams to AC Milan or Marseilles would beggar belief, even on a quiet news day. Adams, with his big boot and laddish ways, is *the* English footballer.

Arsenal have repaid the loyalty in kind, even though it has strained their sense of decency to the limit at times. On his return from Chelmsford jail after serving his sentence for drink-driving two years ago, Adams was given a rapturous reception by a crowd of 7,000 at a reserve team game, answering their adulation with a clenched fist and bowed head which must have had the ghosts of Highbury fleeing with embarrassment down the marbled halls.

Far from admonishing him or depriving him of the club captaincy, Arsenal stood by their man and paid his wages while he was away, which implied a "boys will be boys" attitude out of proportion to the seriousness of the offence. Luckily, there was nothing more serious than a bent Ford and a little bit of pride.

Earlier this year, however, Adams needed 29 stitches after a few drinks with the lads and a free-fall descent of a flight of stairs. Quite apart from the gash over the eye, the incident opened old wounds and further stretched Arsenal's patience. Accidents will happen, of course, but why do they always seem to happen to Adams?

With his team-mates and within the game, Adams commands a respect bordering on genuine affection. His strength of character is legendary, enhanced by every setback from the day he made his debut for Arsenal at Sunderland in 1983, was at fault for the first goal and went on to become man of the match. He is a players' player; dependable, committed, not just strong, but a pedlar of strength. Alan Smith calls him "the heartbeat" of the Arsenal side, Lee Dixon "the kingpin". George Graham, ever faithful, has called him a "colossus" and "Captain Courageous", which is a far cry from his first nickname, "Rodders", after the character in *Only Fools and Horses*. "He is the sort of guy you would like in the trenches with you." Terry Butcher, the former England international, said. Until he saw the leadership potential in Adams, Graham had wanted to sign Butcher in his early days at Highbury. Now he is unstinting in praise of his captain.

> He is a great influence. You can get a very talented player, but he needs mental strength. Tony can give that.

"He is a winner. A great influence on the pitch and in the dressing-room. You can get a very talented player, but he needs mental strength. Tony can give that."

There are no half measures with Adams. He divides opinions as cleanly as a cheese-cutter. Not just opinions about his character or about his team, but about the very spirit of the game. Too often, in Adams's case, being a winner brings ugliness: the harassment of the referee or linesman after another arm-raised appeal for offside has been turned down. Time and again, that lolloping run, curiously reminiscent of an Olympic 20-kilometre walker (but, his critics would say, not nearly as fast), ends in a clatter of bodies and another booking.

On the one hand, Adams symbolises the do-or-die spirit which still makes English teams the most feared in the world; on the other, he reflects a grimacing defiance of style and creativity, the product of a nation which will not accept that the game has moved on.

The dichotomy has been reflected in Adams's stuttering international career. Labelled as the "new Bobby Moore" too early for his own good, he should have earned more than 23 caps in six years after a promising debut in Spain at the age of 20. But his limitations were exposed by the likes of Marco van Basten in the European championships in 1988 and, as Bobby Robson and his successor, Graham Taylor, in his early days, flirted with continental ideas, Adams was branded a donkey by the terraces and a typically limited English centre half by the England management. For nearly 18 months, between his nineteenth cap, against the Republic of Ireland in March 1991, and the opening World Cup qualifying match, against Norway in October last year, Adams paid the penalty for being old-fashioned.

But now Taylor has reverted to an all-action English club style, Adams has come back into favour, earning high praise for his performance during a nasty match in Turkey. His luck might have changed, too. Though his lack of pace was momentarily exposed once more when Bergkamp scored the first Dutch goal at Wembley last month, Walker's catastrophic error deflected any criticism. The Donkey of Düsseldorf has been transformed into the Lion of Izmir. Who knows what the next comparison might be?

Graham believes the best of Adams is yet to come, but within a limited horizon. "All great teams need a good stopping player, like Maurice Norman with the Spurs double-winning side or Jackie Charlton at Leeds," he said. "The pundits think that Tony should be an outstanding footballing centre half. But he is an outstanding stopper and he will get better." Taylor thinks he can be more than just a destroyer. "He's certainly a far better footballer than he is given credit for. I'm constantly encouraging him to become a more complete player," the England manager said.

David Seaman, the Arsenal goalkeeper, has also noticed an improvement in his centre half this season. "Now that he's got back a regular place in the England team, he's more confident and he's getting more experienced, knowing when to go into tackles, reading the game more," he said.

Adams professes to be indifferent about which label he carries round his neck at the moment. Donkey, lion, hippo. Even Arsenal have labelled him. "Outstanding stopper." Nothing more. "I'm not bothered," he said. "I never have been and I never will be. As long as people say things about me and not about my team, I don't mind. I can take it." The one tag he does flinch at has "loser" written on it.

Adams has already entered folklore at Highbury and, as time dims reality, he will doubtless come to be regarded as one of the game's characters. An FA Cup winners' medal this afternoon would make him one of the most successful captains in the game, but it will not stop half the nation switching off in disgust.

Players complain of dangerous conditions in Spanish Open

Lanner leads after magical round

FROM JOHN HOPKINS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT
IN MADRID

THE rumble of thunder did not dominate the second day of the Peugeot Spanish Open at the Royal Automobile Club of Spain here yesterday. For that, *muchas gracias*. It rained from time to time and a firm wind set the flags straining at their poles.

With some of the first-round leaders unable to complete their second rounds, the lead was taken over by the Swede, Mats Lanner. He wielded his putter to magical effect to record a 64 for a 36-hole total of 136, eight under par. He is followed by Joakim Haeggman, a fellow Swede, Santiago Luna, of Spain, and the extremely promising South African, Ernie Els, who are all two strokes behind. Ian Woosnam, the overnight leader, reached the turn in 37, having dropped one shot, and was four under.

But do not think it was an uneventful day on the plain in Spain. Instead of claps of thunder, there arose a chorus of complaint from players criticising the PGA European Tour's failure the previous night to stop play before lightning struck. In the United States, where the climatic conditions are extreme, golfers and spectators are killed each summer. Five spectators were hit by lightning at the 1991 US Open and one later died. Lee Trevino, Bobby Nichols and Jerry Heard were all struck during the 1975 Western Open.

Trevino recovered but the career of Heard, who by a bizarre historical coincidence had won the Spanish Open the previous year, was all but ended.

To combat lightning, the US PGA Tour uses a lightning detector.

Nick Faldo, the Open champion and world No 1, said: "I have told them [the PGA European Tour] to invest in a lightning detector before. It might be expensive, but it is nothing like as expensive as a lawsuit. People's lives are in danger."

Chris Moody said: "The crack of the lightning was unbelievable. They were very lucky not to have someone killed."

Heinz Peter Thuel, whose umbrella was struck by lightning, causing him to be thrown to the ground three feet away, said that he was saved by having a plastic and rubber umbrella and not a metal one. "They should have brought us in before they did," he said. "It is not worth losing a life for the sake of 20 minutes extra play."

John Paramor, the director of tour operations for the PGA European Tour, said: "In the US, they are much more likely to have dangerous storms. If you look at the European Tour over the past five years, there have been only a half dozen times when there has been lightning that could be described as dangerous. A lightning detector is extremely expensive in both manpower and equipment. It is something we have not invested in because we have other priorities."

Lanner's round had to be seen to be believed. And even after he had seen it, he did not quite believe it. He says he is a bad putter and sometimes uses a left-hander's putter. He did last Sunday for example, in the fourth round of the Benson and Hedges International Open. It worked to such effect then he took only 29 putts.

Another day, another course, another putter. This time using a right hander's club, he holed from 18 feet, 12 feet, 20 feet, 20 feet, 25 feet and 30 feet. In addition, he sank a couple of six footers and, oddly, once took three putts. "When I'm hot, I'm hot. When I'm not, I'm not," he said.

MADRID SCORES

LEADERS AFTER TWO ROUNDS (GB and Ire unless stated): 136: M Lanner (Swe), 72, 64. 138: J Haeggman (Swe), 69, 69; S Luna (Sp) 71, 67. E Els (SA) 70, 68. 139: P Mitchell 68, 71; P Baker 70, 69. 140: R Davis (Aus) 70, 70; M Pinero (Sp) 72, 68; D Clarke 69, 71. 141: G Brand jr 68, 73. 142: J Rivero (Sp) 71, 71; V Singh (Fiji) 72, 70; A Sherborne 70, 72; R Chapman 70, 72.

143: R Claydon 72, 71; M Sunesson (Swe) 71, 72; A Forsbrand (Swe) 70, 73; M-A Jimenez (Sp) 71, 72; P-U Johansson (Swe) 74, 69; O Sellberg (Swe) 74, 69; J Payne 71, 72; M Davis 71, 72; J Townsend (US) 72, 71; J Quiros (Sp) 71, 72. 144: M Mouland 72, 72. D Feherty 72, 72; P McGinley 74, 70; S Rey (Switz) 71, 73; C Rocca (It) 76, 68. 145: C Moody 71, 74; P Curry 73, 72. 146: D Cooper 73, 73; S Little 71, 75; S Tinning (Den) 73, 73; J Davila (Sp) 76, 70; P Lawrie 73, 73. 147: J Parnevik (Swe) 74, 73; C Montgomerie 71, 76; B Longmuir 72, 75. 148: A Pinero (Sp) 76, 72; M Poxon 72, 76; I Gervas (Sp) 74, 74; R Alvarez (Arg) 75, 73, J Van de Velde (Fr) 74, 74; R Lee 71, 77. 149: J Bland 75, 74; C Rautenson 76, 73; A Canessa (It) 74, 75; J Amuti (Sp) 76, 73; R Mann 76, 73; G Turner 73, 76

150: R Winchester 73, 77. 151: D J Russell 78, 73; R Willison 78, 73, A Coltart 77, 74; V Fernandez (Arg) 75, 76; G Ralph 72, 79. 152: G Nicklaus (US) 75, 77; B Malley (US) 75, 77, C McClellan (US) 74, 78. 153: S Ginn (Aus) 75, 78, Y Beamonte (Sp) 78, 75. 155: W Player (SA) 77, 78; D Pastor (Sp) 80, 75. Retired: B Barnes, K Waters, D A Russell.



Woosnam: late starter

WEEKEND FIXTURES

FA Cup final
Arsenal v Sheffield Wednesday (at Wembley, all ticket, 3.0)

Scottish League

Premier division
Airdrie v Motherwell
Celtic v Dundee
Dundee Utd v Aberdeen
Falkirk v Rangers
Hibernian v Partick
St Johnstone v Hearts

First division
Clydebank v Raith
Dunfermline v Morton
Kilmarnock v Hamilton
Meadowbank v Dumbarton
St Mirren v Cowdenbeath
Stirling v Ayr

Second division
Arbroath v Forfar
Clyde v Brechin
East Fife v Berwick
East Stirling v Albion
Montrose v Queen's Park
Queen of South v Alloa
Stenhousemuir v Stranraer

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Llanelli v Connah's Quay (11.30).

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Tottenham v QPR.

BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Second division: Atherton Collieries v Maghull.

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Ignatians v Meadonians; Aloysians v Wilsonians. Second division: Kingsburians v Meadonians R; Alpertonians v Ignatians R. Third division: Leyton v Buckwellians; Aloysians R v Dorikinians.

CRICKET
Tetley Bitter Challenge
Final day of three
11.0.
HOVE: Sussex v Australians

Britannic Assurance county championship
Third day of four
11.0, 110 overs minimum
DERBY: Derbyshire v Glamorgan
STOCKTON-ON-TEES: Durham v Hampshire
CANTERBURY: Kent v Warwickshire
LORD'S: Middlesex v Nottinghamshire
THE OVAL: Surrey v Essex
BRADFORD: Yorkshire v Worcestershire

Other matches
First day of three
11.0
FENNER'S: Cambridge University v Leicestershire
THE PARKS: Oxford University v Northamptonshire

OTHER SPORT
BOXING: Scottish Exhibition Centre, Glasgow: World Boxing Organisation (WBO) super-middleweight championship: Chris Eubank (Brighton, holder) v Ray Close (Belfast); WBO flyweight championship: Pat Clinton (Glasgow, holder) v Jake Mtaka (SA); WBO mini-flyweight championship: Rennie Damas Valle (San Salvador, holder) v Paul Weir (Irvine).
CYCLING: Oxford City 10 miles (Marcham); Catford CC 10 miles (Tonbridge).
TENNIS: Federation Cup: Qualifying round (Nottingham).
GOLF: Brabazon Trophy: English amateur strokeplay championship (Stoneham)
EQUESTRIANISM: Royal Windsor Horse Show.
BOWLS: Eastern Counties League: Bedfordshire v Hertfordshire (Brogborough); Cambridgeshire v Suffolk. Home Counties League: Kent v Buckinghamshire. Midland Counties championship: Northamptonshire v Leicestershire (Kingsthorpe); Worcestershire v Warwickshire. Inter-county matches: Oxfordshire v Gloucestershire; Wiltshire v Sussex.

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL
Barclays League play-offs
Semi-finals, first legs
First division
Leicester v Portsmouth (at City Ground, Nottingham, all ticket, 1.0)
Swindon v Tranmere (all ticket, 2.50)

Second division
Stockport v Port Vale (all ticket, 12.0)
Swansea v West Bromwich Albion

Third division
Bury v York
Crewe v Walsall

ALLBRIGHT BITTER WELSH CUP: Final: Cardiff v Rhyl (at National Ground, Cardiff).

CRICKET
Axa Equity & Law League
One day
12.0, 50 overs
DERBY: Derbyshire v Glamorgan
STOCKTON-ON-TEES: Durham v Hampshire
CANTERBURY: Kent v Warwickshire
LORD'S: Middlesex v Nottinghamshire
TAUNTON: Somerset v Lancashire
THE OVAL: Surrey v Essex
HEADINGLEY: Yorkshire v Worcestershire

Tour match
One day
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Australians

Other match
Second day of three
11.0
FENNER'S: Cambridge University v Leicestershire

OTHER SPORT
CYCLING: Lincoln grand prix (102 miles; Lincoln, 11.30); Eddie Soens memorial track meeting (Kirkby, Merseyside, 2.0).
EQUESTRIANISM: Royal Windsor Horse Show.
HOCKEY: All England Women's Hockey Association Cup final: Leicester v Ealing (at Milton Keynes).
MOTOR RACING: British touring car championships: Fourth round (Donington Park).
TENNIS: Federation Cup: Qualifying round (Nottingham).

Grand prix will end with run on the pound

David Powell, athletics correspondent, looks ahead to an international season with rich rewards at its finale

A few hundred pounds invested in the 1860s would be money enough now to sponsor a grand prix athletics meeting, but what value tradition? The oldest dual fixture in the world, begun in 1864 between the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, is held today, followed tomorrow by a meeting born of tradition's great opponent, progress.

Progress, in this case, means a record £1.5 million prize-money for the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) Mobil grand prix. There are no amateurs at the highest level any more.

Comprising 17 meetings in 12 countries, the ninth grand prix season begins in São Paulo tomorrow, and culminates in the final at Crystal Palace on September 10, its first time in Britain. As a consequence of change this season to the scoring structure, the final will be more important than ever.

Because they are held after the highlight of each season, be it world championships or Olympic Games, grand prix finals have tended to be anti-climaxes, often held without the best athletes and with small incentive for those who do show. But, by increasing prize-money substantially and changing the scoring system so that performances at Crystal Palace play a greater part in who takes the pay-outs, the IAAF is trying to breathe life into the final.

Last year, prize-money was about £500,000, so awards have trebled. The overall winners, one man and one woman, will this year each receive £65,000, compared with the £16,000 which Kevin Young and Heike Drechsler collected last year.

Previously, athletes accrued points throughout the season, with double points for victory in the final, to determine a champion for each event. In some events, the winner of an event in the grand prix final and the discipline's grand prix champion would not be the same person; an unsatisfactory outcome.

At Crystal Palace, the winners of each final before a full house on the night will be declared grand prix champion. Each will be awarded nearly £20,000, compared with about £6,500 paid last season to champions decided on points accrued through the season. However, unlike the grand prix champions in each event, the overall winners will still be determined on the season's points. The prospect of the next winners being decided at Crystal Palace are greater, though, now that treble points, instead of double, are awarded for victories in the final. With the winner's money double the amount awarded to the runner-up — £65,000 to £32,000 — there should be a keen sense of competition.

So will there be at Iffley Road today. This will be the 119th match between Oxford and Cambridge, graced in the past by Abrahams, Bannister and Chataway among others. But the closest link now with the famous is the son of Lord Jeffrey Archer, James, who competes for Oxford.

Like the IAAF, the universities have not always been squeaky clean. An engraving shows that, in the first match, illegal pacing took place in the mile. These were men ahead of their time: the grand prix circuit now is full of pacemakers.

☐ Belgrave Harriers, the British League champions, and other leading clubs have withdrawn their threat to boycott the second league match of the season, at Birmingham on June 5, because of a clash with the European Relays meeting at Portsmouth. After talks with the British Athletic Federation, the league and clubs have accepted an assurance that they will lose only a limited number of their internationals.

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Today's FA Cup final is as much a tactical battle between rival managers as a duel between their teams

Onus on Francis to disrupt the Arsenal rhythm

BY ROB HUGHES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

Assuming Cup Finals are won by the skill and ingenuity of men, and not by the power of prayer, the odds today are on Arsenal repeating their Coca-Cola Cup victory over Sheffield Wednesday. That would make Arsenal the first winners of both domestic trophies in the same season, would deny Wednesday not only this FA Cup but a season in Europe, and give Norwich City a role on the Continent.

The onus is on the Sheffield Wednesday manager, Trevor Francis, to come up with a strategy that changes, reshapes the pattern of last month. He has the mind to do it, he has the players, and we will know shortly after 3pm whether the Sheffield team has the will to impose its arguably greater talents on Arsenal.

Previewing the FA Cup final is much more difficult in these times of clandestine management, of final-hour team selections, and of whether reports from the camps concerning injuries are real.

George Graham, the Arsenal manager, has made the art of fooling the opposition his speciality. He has used the press to sell more red herrings than the average fishmonger and for the Coca-Cola Cup he sprang Davis from nowhere into his midfield, the player's sixth appearance of the season, and one whose skills in the second half were able to change totally the expected balance of that final.

This time Graham may yet surprise us again: he has Carter in the wings, but having succeeded once with a certain plan, I believe he will eschew that option. But Francis must respond, must alter his formation in defence and crucially in midfield if he is to take away the initiative.

The Sheffield Wednesday manager watched a video rerun of the Coca-Cola Cup on Wednesday and, justifiably, convinced himself that there was no great disparity between his side and the winners.

He may not say it, but Arsenal won not through talent, although Merson quite overshadowed Waddle. Rather, Arsenal's victory in coming from a goal behind was built out of the 1930s credo of Herbert Chapman — discipline, organisation, comradeship. Arsenal a month ago were a better, hungrier team in the collective sense of the word.

They were able through the pace not only of Wright but especially of Campbell to expose Anderson and Palmer at the heart of defence. For that reason I think that Graham will again start today with Campbell rather than with Smith, whose ability to hold up the play, whose selflessness to serve Wright is an alternative weapon the manager much covets.

The other area for Graham



Sheridan: key role

to surprise us is in midfield. He no longer has Morrow to suppress and contain the playmaking of Sheridan. Morrow will be confined to a sentimental pre-match appearance to receive the medal he won last month before his captain, Adams, proved more dangerous in the celebration than in the performance, and broke the youngster's arm.

Graham could select from two alternatives. He has Selley, a tenacious youth international, ten-stone of barbed wire, who performed so manfully against Leeds. But there is also Jensen, a Danish European champion who found English football too relentless for him in midseason.

However, Jensen was resurgent for his country in Dublin against Ireland two weeks ago. He gave a display of maturity and strength that obliterated Keane and Townsend, and surely his experience could be decisive today.

But that is where Wednesday must do something about the midfield unity. I believe that if Palmer is fit, and not troubled by the ankle injury sustained on Thursday, he would be best used in his ubiquitous midfield role. He has such a stride, such appetite and such willingness to make runs off the ball, that he more than anyone could draw away the supports, Parlour and Jensen, leaving Davis isolated.

This would be where Sheridan, a player whose vision and right-foot precision passing we so rarely saw in the Coca-Cola Cup, could use his range and ability to outwit Arsenal.

I further anticipate that Francis might decline the advice given to him by league managers such as Coppell to attempt to nullify Wright with the pace of Warhurst in defence.

True, Francis paid £750,000 for Warhurst as a centre back, but he has proved error-prone there. He converted spectacularly to goal scoring and there is every likelihood that Shirtliff will return in defence with his superb reading of the game and his adequate pace.

That leaves one more decision. Does Francis persevere with Warhurst, who broke his wrist a week ago, but is fit to play with a light cast up front? I suspect so, leaving Hirst, for all his statements of confidence that his fitness and form are bristling again, on the bench.

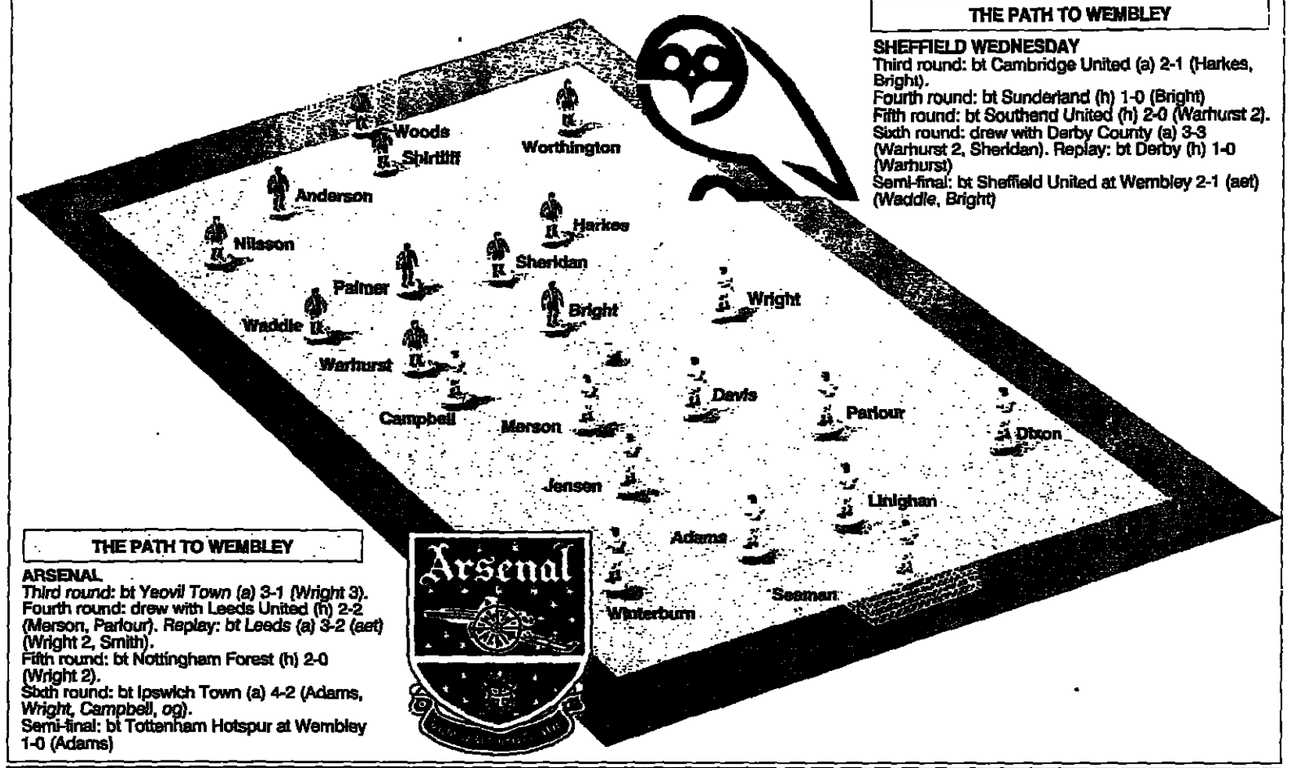
If Francis makes the right choices, if this time he outwits his adversary in the selection, then perhaps Wednesday will after all win back the FA Cup that last was in their boardroom in 1935.

Both teams have had to come to this final after playing five games in 11 days, so tiredness will assuredly play a part.

The Sheffield Wednesday club chaplain, the Rev David Jeans, is doing all he can. He said a prayer yesterday that concluded: "And Lord, we would like to bring the Cup back to Sheffield, amen."

GEOFF SIMS

THE TACTICAL BATTLE AT WEMBLEY



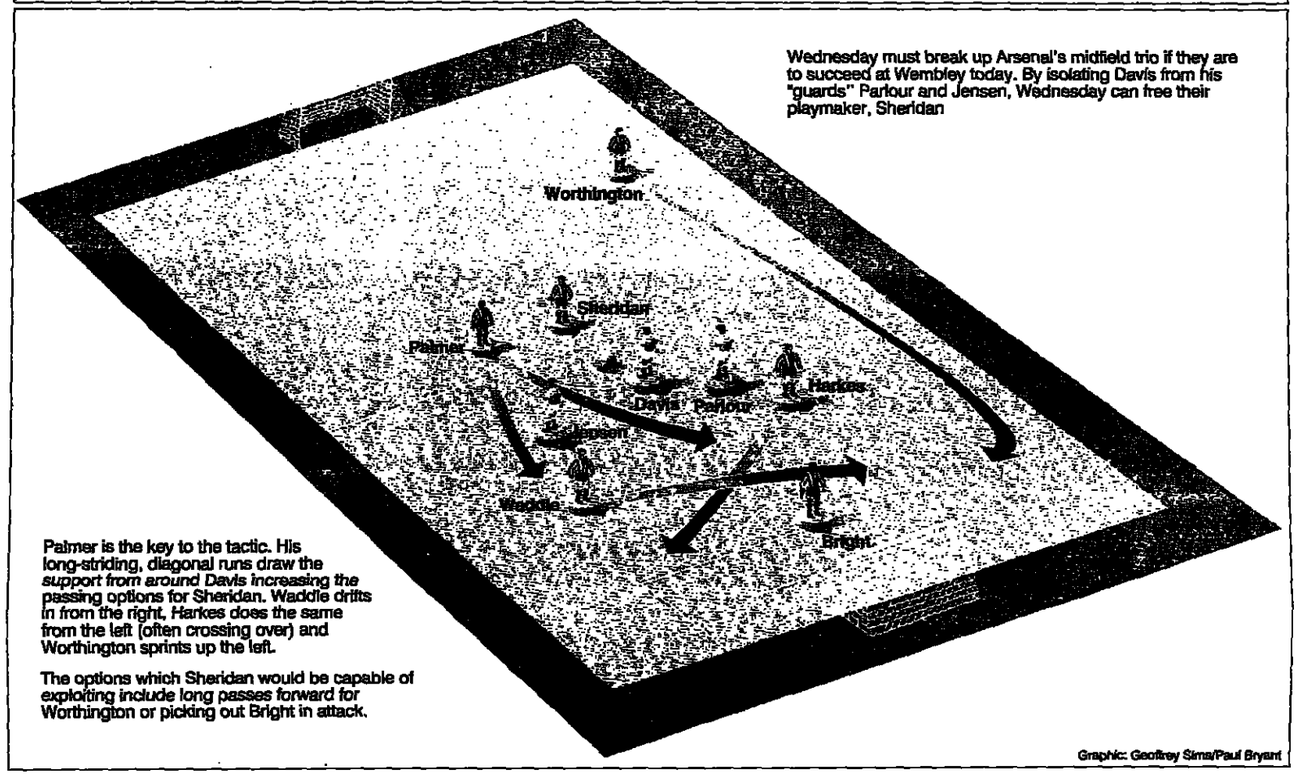
THE PATH TO WEMBLEY

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY
Third round: bt Cambridge United (a) 2-1 (Harkes, Bright).
Fourth round: bt Sunderland (h) 1-0 (Bright)
Fifth round: bt Southend United (h) 2-0 (Warhurst 2).
Sixth round: drew with Derby County (a) 3-3 (Warhurst 2, Sheridan). Replay: bt Derby (h) 1-0 (Warhurst)
Semi-final: bt Sheffield United at Wembley 2-1 (aet) (Waddle, Bright)

THE PATH TO WEMBLEY

ARSENAL
Third round: bt Yeovil Town (a) 3-1 (Wright 3).
Fourth round: drew with Leeds United (h) 2-2 (Merson, Parlour). Replay: bt Leeds (a) 3-2 (aet) (Wright 2, Smith).
Fifth round: bt Nottingham Forest (h) 2-0 (Wright 2).
Sixth round: bt Ipswich Town (a) 4-2 (Adams, Wright, Campbell, og).
Semi-final: bt Tottenham Hotspur at Wembley 1-0 (Adams)

HOW SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY CAN PREVENT ARSENAL FROM A FIRST CUP DOUBLE



Wednesday must break up Arsenal's midfield trio if they are to succeed at Wembley today. By isolating Davis from his "guards" Parlour and Jensen, Wednesday can free their playmaker, Sheridan

Palmer is the key to the tactic. His long-striding, diagonal runs draw the support from around Davis increasing the passing options for Sheridan. Waddle drifts in from the right, Harkes does the same from the left (often crossing over) and Worthington sprints up the left.

The options which Sheridan would be capable of exploiting include long passes forward for Worthington or picking out Bright in attack.

Graphic: Geoffrey Sims/Paul Bryant

Perplexing personality caught in a tangle of contradiction



David Miller assesses the Arsenal manager, George Graham, a ruler with a sharp suit and a firm hand

George Graham the player and George Graham the team manager have been something of a contradiction, difficult to understand. I doubt if he wholly understands himself. We are unlikely to understand him any better even if Arsenal should complete a double cup victory this afternoon.

Should Arsenal win, Graham will be the most successful manager at Highbury since Herbert Chapman, with his three consecutive championships from 1933 to 1935 and the FA Cup in 1936. In seven years, Graham will have accumulated two championships, two League Cups and now the FA Cup, compared with Bertie Mee's championship and FA Cup double of 1971 and Fairs Cup victory the previous year.

Yet this outwardly urbane Scot will remain a conundrum: the disciplinarian whose teams are intermittently conspicuous for their indiscipline, an elegant former midfield player — aptly defined by the nickname of "Stroller" — whose teams, though successful, have been too often uncomfortably physical. There is that inalienable inner struggle between Aquascutum swagger and the steel fenders surrounding insecurity.

There exists the unavoidable suspicion of a dichotomy in his personality: between how he personally wishes to be seen in public — as a player and, subsequently, as manager, with his slightly too self-conscious sartorial style — and the way he seeks to motivate in private, strictly functional.

The decline of Liverpool's near 30-year period of English dominance opened the way for Graham to create a fresh era — a dynasty, as he would like to term it. Yet this has not happened because the vein of success has been marred by not only the element of indiscipline but by, at the top, a frustrating inconsistency.

As often as Peter Hill-Wood, the chairman, has been delighted to applaud the arrival of trophies, he has been displeased at having to appear before the Football Association to hear accusations against Arsenal's honoured name.

Arsenal's tactics under Graham perpetuate the contradiction of the man: expertly playing the fish, as it were, inexorably reeling it in to the bank, then suddenly spearing it instead of using the landing net. It was a contradiction epitomised by the season



'Arsenal's tactics under Graham perpetuate his contradictions. He reels in the fish, then spears it instead of using the landing net'

1990-1, in which Arsenal won the championship for the second time and Graham, earlier in the season, was fined by the club for his team's less agreeable characteristics.

Many of the Scottish managers following the road south to make their mark in England — Busby, Gillies, Beattie, Docherty, Wallace and Ferguson — have brought with them that resolute aspect of temperament and, often, an instinct for the artistic game. Busby, like Graham from a mining community, nonetheless focused his team on skill until the prevalent national mood forced him to compromise for the protection of his own skilful players.

Graham has said in the past that "I didn't appreciate discipline until I signed for Arsenal". Within 18 months as manager, he had transferred Charlie Nicholas, a glowing talent, because Nicholas did not conform to the self-control that Graham had learned under Mee.

The teams of Mee — or rather his coach, Don Howe, who fashioned much of the style — were notable for the qualities and, when Thomas was sold to Liverpool the following year, the player was critical of the Arsenal method.

Having signed Limpar, the lissom, elusive Swede, Graham has likewise been consistently disinclined to exploit his skills. Arsenal are personified by the more direct, more dependable, counter thrusts of the admirable Merson. You sense that Graham — like Revie, like Ramsey — mistrusts skill unless it is wrapped in perspiration.

Limpar is said to be unfit today. Would Graham otherwise have opted for his speed on Wembley's open spaces? We will never know.

To a degree, Graham's career has moved unerringly along the path towards a pedestal in the history books. After his playing career with Aston Villa, Chelsea and Arsenal wound down with Manchester United, Portsmouth and Crystal Palace, he became, following an apprenticeship as coach under Terry Venables at Crystal Palace and Queens Park Rangers, the manager at Millwall.

Building bricks at The Den without straw, he then returned to Highbury. His youth team policy there has been exemplary. He has rejected foreign inducements, believing in his own and Arsenal's future. And yet?

His disciplinary aura, earning the dressing-room nickname of "Gaddafi", has not extended the full distance. A Nelsonian eye has been passed on the private frailties of his club captain, Adams, while Wright, signed from Crystal Palace, has continuously lived on the brink of excess, jeopardising the team's interests.

We will not be privy to what Graham tells his team today. It would be good to think that, win or lose, he will have acquired the confidence, from sustained success, to lead Arsenal into Europe next season determined to decorate not only Highbury's trophy cupboard but, like Liverpool, the game itself.

bone of Storey and Rice, as well as for the vision of McLintock, Kennedy, Armstrong ... and Graham. Rice is on the present Highbury coaching staff.

English spectators are sometimes left wondering what are the terms of reference given to Arsenal's players in those private moments at training and in the dressing-room. Perhaps Arsenal's finest single performance was the night they won the championship in 1989 with Thomas's winning goal at Anfield. Yet Graham never found — or preferred? — the formula that might fully release Thomas's

Quiet Devonian whose profile disguises fierce inner resolve



Rob Hughes assesses Sheffield Wednesday's manager, Trevor Francis, a mild man but not weak

Trevor Francis does not know why, but he attracts psychologists. They move in on him like bees to honey. "Since we lost the Coca-Cola Cup final last month, I've had one or two psychologists write telling me Arsenal now have the upper hand," he muses.

He pauses, smiles and adds: "I've also had one or two telling me we will win because the hunger from losing will be stronger than Arsenal's motivation."

Maybe it is the boyish smile that makes psychologists and others suppose Francis is vulnerable in the management game. From infancy to his present 39 years, schoolmasters had feared he might be too nice to be a player, and Brian Clough predicted he would be too nice to be a manager.

Has he deceived them all? The placid nature masks a fierce will; the Devonian calmness does indeed belie a competitive spirit. But those who assume that players of refinement — the Hoddles, Platinis, Francises — do not desire to be winners, are way off the mark.

Francis made dramatic mistakes in his 11 months managing Queens Park Rangers, but learned from them, and in two years with Sheffield Wednesday has built on the style set by Ron Atkinson, sustaining the dressing-room harmony and adding quality players such as Woods, Waddle, Warhurst and Bright.

Yet Francis allows few to get close to him. There is an independence possibly born in him, or perhaps evolved after he left a tight-knit family at the age of 15, and became instantly projected into the boy wonder, the "St Francis of St Andrews", through his scoring exploits at Birmingham City.

Even there, a psychologist got to him. Professor Bruce Ogilvie, adviser to United States Olympians, brought a 190-point questionnaire to the players at Birmingham. From the answers Francis, then 17, gave, the professor concluded that he doubted the player would reach full potential, that his temperament was as fragile as an egg shell.

Francis at the time was an £8-a-week apprentice, helping to draw 45,000 crowds. Yet the psychologist condemned him. The "motivational profile" given to Freddie Goodwin, the manager, stated that he lacked mental toughness, was extremely non-aggressive, and scored low on determination, on "coachability", on emotional control, and on conscientiousness.

"He didn't seem to have a good word for me, did he?"



'When backed into a corner, Francis usually blossoms. He demonstrates the fallacy of construing mildness as weakness'

Francis said. The smile was there again. "I don't attach much importance to this kind of thing. In fact, I think it's rubbish. I believe sport is a personal thing, you motivate yourself in your own way," he said.

Francis has since passed through the management hands of Alf Ramsey, Don Revie, Ron Greenwood, Brian Clough and, perhaps most influential to him, Jim Smith and Ron Atkinson. It was Revie, who doubted Francis most, who nonetheless once perceptively said: "The less space Francis is given, the more dangerous he appears to be." Indeed, when backed into a corner, when obliged to draw on inner resources, Francis usually blossoms. He demonstrates the fallacy of construing mildness as weakness. He acquired 52 England caps, became the first £1 million transfer under Clough, and the people of Genoa still talk of him as the Englishman who, in manners as much as performance, most endeared himself to the Italian League with Sampdoria.

But when we talk of mental toughness, we have to consider the physical. At the age of 20, Francis suffered the first of several career-threatening tendon tears. Conquering any self-doubt, persevering beyond the worst medical prognosis, Francis trained his way back to fitness on each occasion. Furthermore, this man with the temperament of an egg shell, proved bold enough to allow instinct to breathe within his game, and persuaded even his father that "our Trev has got the heart of a lion."

When you know the father, you know that that is rare praise. It is from Roy Francis, a tough semi-professional wing half, that the son became obsessed with the game. They would spend hours together on Plymouth Hoe, the father insisting: "You don't teach skill, you encourage it."

And yet when so many in football, drawn through an era of muscle before mind, doubted that Trevor Francis was man enough for the international game, he taught even his father something about life. Francis Sr could never turn the other cheek on a football field. "I used to dish it out," he admitted. "But Trev said if they are kicking him, it proved he had got their measure." He would beat them with the ball.

Two years ago, a player on the eve of Wednesday's League Cup final at Wembley, Francis confessed: "I'm dreading the day I can't put boots on and play competitively. I just don't know how I can accept life without playing football." There were those who knew how he would adapt. They included his mother, Phyllis.

She remembered the headmaster bringing Francis home with influenza two days before the school sports day. She knew she would never keep him in bed, that Trevor, with his ability as a hurdler, sprinter, jumper, sensed he could win the school's victor ludorum. Of course, he did so.

But toughness comes in many guises, it can be cerebral as well as physical, even in the English game. And the players at Sheffield who have been surprised by his meticulous detail are merely relearning what his schoolteachers found when Francis was a precocious child playing against boys five years his senior.

"You would not believe how dedicated the boy was," one sports master said. "At the age of nine, he had a scrapbook on all the weaknesses and strengths of the primary school kids."

That scrapbook today, maintained partly in the head, is an international dossier of a player putting mind to the fore in a physical game. Tell that to the psychologists.

SPORT

SATURDAY MAY 15 1993

Turmoil at Tottenham after club's board dismisses chief executive

Anger greets Venables sacking

ROBIN MAYES



Uncertain future: Ray Clemence, one of Tottenham's coaching team, at the club yesterday, when he said he would be considering his position over the weekend

BY KEITH PIKE

TOTTENHAM Hotspur, one of English football's leading clubs, was in turmoil yesterday as players, staff and supporters reacted angrily to the dismissal of Terry Venables as the club's chief executive.

The club's coaching team of Doug Livermore and Ray Clemence may follow Venables out of White Hart Lane. They will consider their positions over the weekend. Clemence would not rule out the possibility of a players' boycott, while on the eve of the FA Cup final, at which their north London rivals, Arsenal, will be centre stage, Tottenham's supporters were being urged to demonstrate over the decision and not to renew their season tickets.

Ted Buxton, the chief scout, said the club's staff were "devastated" by events. "It must be the worst day in Tottenham's history," he said.

As several hundred supporters gathered outside the ground to voice their support for Venables, a former Tottenham player and manager, Alan Sugar, chairman of Tottenham Hotspur plc, refused to say why he had turned against the man with whom he bought the club in 1991.

Tottenham was then on the verge of collapse, with debts of around £18 million. The Sugar-Venables partnership — with Sugar's renowned business acumen and Venables's managerial skills — was seen as the "dream ticket" which would rescue the club, and until Thursday night, when news of Sugar's plans to dismiss Venables leaked, it appeared to have worked.

Despite having lost players of the calibre of Paul Gascoigne and Gary Lineker, Tottenham finished eighth in the Premier League and reached the semi-finals of the FA Cup, with Venables's shrewd transfer dealings complimenting the club's crop of outstanding young players, which includes Nicky Barmby and Danny Hill. Tottenham are also expected to announce a trading profit of around £5 million at the end of the month.

In a statement, Sugar said: "While I have control of the company it will never have any financial problems and I confirm that such financial resources will be applied as is appropriate to a football club.

"I have never intervened in any matters to do with the playing department and never intend to do so. This area is firmly the responsibility of the appropriate professional football managers. Any suggestions that I will be involved in team selection or management now or in the future is ludicrous."

Several players, though, spoke of their concern at Venables's dismissal. Gordon Durie, the Scotland striker, said: "I don't think Alan Sugar realises how much Terry Venables means to the players and the fans. I think he has made a big mistake, and that's the attitude of most of the lads I have spoken to.

"Terry Venables was responsible for signing most of the current side and most of them wouldn't have come to the club without him. I'm sure of that. Many of them could be having second thoughts now that he's gone."

Teddy Sheringham, who was signed from Nottingham Forest for £2.1 million at the start of the season, said: "Both the players and the supporters look upon Terry Venables as a legend. Him going is a bigger loss to Tottenham than Brian Clough's leaving is to Nottingham Forest." He said he would have to "seriously consider" his position at the club.

Buxton said yesterday's events had "come right out of the blue" and warned that Venables "will not give up the fight easily".

A traumatic day at the club began with Venables arriving at 8.45am for an emergency meeting of the club's five-man board at which he is reported to have turned down an offer by Sugar to buy his 23 per cent stake in the club. A vote on a motion to dismiss Venables as chief executive was then carried by three votes to one. Venables did not vote, and was supported only by Jonathan Crystal, a barrister. Those who voted against him were Sugar, who has a majority, 43 per cent shareholding in the club, Tony Berry and Colin Sandy.

Venables, who had three years of a five-year contract left to run, appeared close to tears. He made only a brief statement before being driven away. "Sugar has voted to dismiss me," he said. "I am talking and have been talking to solicitors." The threat of legal action, possibly for alleged wrongful dismissal, was clear.

Livermore, the first-team coach, and Clemence, his assistant, are also two years into a five-year contract. After their meeting with Sugar, Clemence said: "Both of us have got a lot of things to think about over the weekend and nothing will be decided until after that."

"It's a sad day for the club. Terry has a lot to do with the club being here, and he's now no longer with us. I'm very disappointed and saddened by that, but whatever reason there is for his dismissal is way above our heads."

Asked if he and Livermore wanted to stay at the club, he said: "I've been here for 12 years and it's very close to my heart, but the club is always bigger than anything else."

Steve Davies, a spokesman for the Tottenham Independent Supporters' Association (TISA), said fans were "shocked and appalled" at the decision. "Sugar has consistently praised Venables and led supporters and shareholders to believe that he would be part of the management team for a long time to come.

"Sugar's financial assistance to Terry Venables in the takeover was welcomed, but he only enjoyed the goodwill of supporters because he backed Venables. To now ditch him is an act of treachery."

Davies, 33, a lawyer, believed that the club's progress over the last two years "will be halted in its tracks" and said TISA "will be asking the supporters not to renew their season tickets until Terry Venables is reinstated. We don't want to hurt the club but nothing can hurt it more than this decision".

Photograph, page 1
Leading article, page 15

Partnership that kept Maxwell at bay

TERRY Venables has enjoyed many fine moments in football. One of his finest was when he saved Tottenham Hotspur from Robert Maxwell in June 1991, a move that after the disgraced tycoon's death four months later was shown to be even more crucial to the club than it appeared at the time (John Goodbody writes).

Irving Scholar, then the chairman, appointed Venables manager in 1987, but by 1991, Tottenham Hotspur plc had whittled away its profits from football by unsuccessful ventures off the field. Midland Bank was owed £11 million and was pressing for payment, and £7 million was owed to other creditors.

Venables decided to bring a consortium together, partly using his own money. The Tottenham board was keen for him to succeed against Maxwell because Venables had the supporters behind him. However, each time the board imposed a deadline, Venables could not find the necessary finance. Alan Sugar came to the rescue.

Sugar, head of Amstrad, was enthusiastic not simply because he would become involved in football. His company was to have an interest in televised football, since he supplied satellite dishes for BSkyB. BSkyB subsequently secured the rights for televising live Premier League and FA Cup matches, with the BBC being restricted to a few live fixtures plus highlights on *Match of the Day*.

The Tottenham board originally accepted the offer from Venables and Sugar for £7.5 million, but it proved one of English football's most intense takeover battles. Maxwell fought hard, with Scholar changing his support to Maxwell instead of selling his shares to Sugar and Venables. The pair put pressure on Paul Bobroff, a director who owned 11 per cent of the shares, but Scholar, who said he would do the best for the club he had supported since he was a boy, appeared to want more money for his shares.

Maxwell made a higher bid to Scholar and even suggested that he would be a passive investor, alongside Venables and Sugar. The pair refused and eventually Scholar sold to Sugar and to Venables, who was heavily financed by Norfina, a finance company, agreeing that its £2 million loan should be repayable over a year. Both put up about £3.5 million for the controlling interest.

On June 21, the pair were triumphant. Sugar, with 43 per cent of the shares, was appointed non-executive chairman and Venables, with 23 per cent, was appointed chief executive at a salary of £225,000 (plus bonuses).

The Essex boy whose Sugar deal finally turned sour

BY JOHN GOODBODY

TERRY Venables was the modern versatile football man, the Essex boy who not only made good, but did it with zest and charisma.

In his 50 years, he has played for England at every level, been a successful coach and manager in this country and in Spain, a television pundit, the co-writer of a novel and a television series, restaurant owner, businessman and entrepreneur and, above all, the man who saved Tottenham Hotspur from the clutches of the distrusted Robert Maxwell.

Ironically, his most consummate coup, securing the backing of Alan Sugar to bail out Tottenham in 1991, has been his downfall. Yesterday, Venables lost his job as chief executive, sacked by the man he brought to the club.

The Yiddish word *chutzpah* suits Venables. When he was interviewed for the job as manager of Barcelona, the club's president leant over the table and flipped open his cigar box for the Englishman. To his embarrassment, it was empty. Venables immediately bent down and plucked two cigars from his sock, saying that it was the best place to keep them because it guaranteed they would not snap. "He thought that was quite ingenious. I have always wondered whether I would have got the job if I were a non-smoker," Venables said.

With his *chutzpah* was also energy and preparation. He began learning Catalan a year before he joined Barcelona in 1984. They won the Spanish League in 1985.

However, Venables' career has not been without its setbacks. He was sacked from Barcelona. He dabbled unprofitably in a menswear business. A Mayfair winebar was repossessed last year by its landlord, owing £50,000 in back rent. He put money into three pubs, which ran into financial difficulties.

Dagenham-born, Venables played for three London clubs — Chelsea, Tottenham and Queens Park Rangers — and made two appearances for England. He became English football's brightest young manager when appointed by Crystal Palace in 1976. He moved to Rangers, who he led to the FA Cup final and second division championship before heading to Spain. After reaching the European Cup final with Barcelona in 1986, he became manager of Tottenham in 1987.

Irving Scholar, the former Tottenham chairman who fell out with Venables, has criticised him for having a "grasshopper mind". Scholar wrote: "Tottenham never seemed to get his full attention."

Venables has been criticised about his exact role at Tottenham, where he would work with the players during the morning and on paper work in the afternoon.

As chief executive, he has been distanced from the playing performances since he appointed first Peter Shreeves and subsequently Doug Livermore and Ray Clemence as coaches.

But if Tottenham have played badly, the coaches have tended to get the brickbats — in Shreeves' case, the sack. If the team plays well, the supporters have given Venables much of the credit.

Venables has resented such criticism in the past, saying: "I put all my money in, and my whole life is on the line, so I am going to do things my way. It is like everything else in life — if people are with you, they will give you the benefit of the doubt. If they are not with you, they will look for the wonky side, and find fault any way they can."

Alan Sugar looked for that "wonky" side. Perhaps the greatest tribute to Venables will be heard on Wembley Way this afternoon. The supporters of Arsenal, Tottenham's great rivals, will be relieved at his departure. As a leader of Tottenham, they know he was too good for comfort.

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Mansell revs up charm for Indy 500

NOTHING in Nigel's Mansell's previous career suggests a talent for diplomacy — still less an ability to captivate the world through sheer charm. But over here in the United States, Our Nige has turned into the PR person's dream. None of your hoity-toity Formula One ways here; none of your obsessive feuding, either. "The facility here, I've never seen anything like it," Mansell obligingly told the American press here at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, leaving them all purring. "There's nothing as mighty in the world. There's an atmosphere, a charisma about the whole place. This is the most fantastic thing in motor racing."

And the American papers have been lapping him up. "Not bad for a rookie. Or a veteran," *USA Today* gushed. "There are athletes who grab pressure by the throat and throttle it into submission. There are athletes who aim for the moon and reach the stars," the *Chicago Tribune* said. *The Indianapolis News* went one better: "If he succeeds ... Brits everywhere will go bloody nuts."

Wordsmith

Most journalists are too nice to quote their subjects verbatim. Judicious editing is part of journalism. I think we have all rebelled when some athlete has insisted he/she was misquoted or taken out of context. Most of us dream: the *Boston Herald* acts. Roger Clemens, of the Red Sox, complained that his quotes had been edited in his column, "The World According to Roger". OK, Rog. No more editing. From the latest column: "The way Cleveland was swinging the bat, and, uh, whatnot, they came in swinging the bat again tonight ... they just came out swinging and it was kind of to my disadvantage making good pitches early, but that's the kind of pitcher I am." You can't argue with that.



SIMON BARNES
Sporting Diary from Indianapolis

Here is something our own fab football supporters have never thought of. The Ultra Sur fans of Real Madrid — the looonies behind the south goal — have taken to threatening leading players. The local papers are full of this daring innovation, though it is denied by the club. But top men such as Martin Vázquez have been allegedly followed and surrounded by the Ultra Sur, who threaten violence and demand from the players the financial support that will allow them to do their duty and follow the team.

Fountain of youth

Robert Wright writes to tell me about Maidenhead Merlins hockey team. They played 29 games last season and line up with four 60-year-olds, three 50-years-olds and four in their 40s ("our youth policy"). The average age is 52.73. "The secret of our success began a couple of years ago when we threw away the half-time oranges and brought out a bottle of Scotch instead."



Dynamic men take up golf

I am delighted to announce that I have been invited to the 1994 World Scientific Congress of Golf, which will be held at the University of St Andrews in July. The first congress attracted 300 delegates from 31 countries. Papers read included *A Laser-Based Putting Alignment Test* and *A Closer Look at the Role of the Mind on Golf*. (I am tempted to make a remark here, but I have sworn off cheap jokes for the summer.) Also, *The Effect of Weight Distribution on Club-Impact Dynamics*.

They also discussed a topic of considerable relevance to non-golfing humankind: *Nature Conservation and the Management and Design of Golf Courses in Britain*. "Can you afford not to be there?" the Congress director, Dr Martin Farrally, asks me. "I fear you probably can."

He concludes: "May your lie always be a good one." I shall keep that in my mind when next I do my expenses.

Channel 9 fields potent side

I like the side Australia's Channel 9 has assembled to do its Test commentaries. To open the batting, they have Geoff Boycott and Billy Lawry; middle-order batsmen are Greg and Ian Chappell and the great Tony Greig; in the all-rounder's slot there is Richie Benaud. The side has a four-man seam attack of Geoff Lawson, Mike Whitney, Bob Willis and, of course, Dennis Lillee. It lacks a stumper, one who can bat. I suggest they borrow Alan Knott from his television commentary duties.

Piercing wit

Jeremy Campbell, an American shot-putter, was released from hospital two days after being hit by a javelin. What was the silliest question from the media? "Someone asked me what was going through my head," Campbell said. "My surgeon answered: 'A javelin. Haven't you been paying attention?' "



DISH OF THE DAY

New series profiles our leading chefs

Joël Antunès in Mayfair, page 4



COUNTRY LIFE

Reflections in the water meadows

Philip Howard, page 10



AT YOUR SERVICE

Spiritual peace in the inner city

The meditative life, page 7

THE TIMES CROSSWORD CONTEST

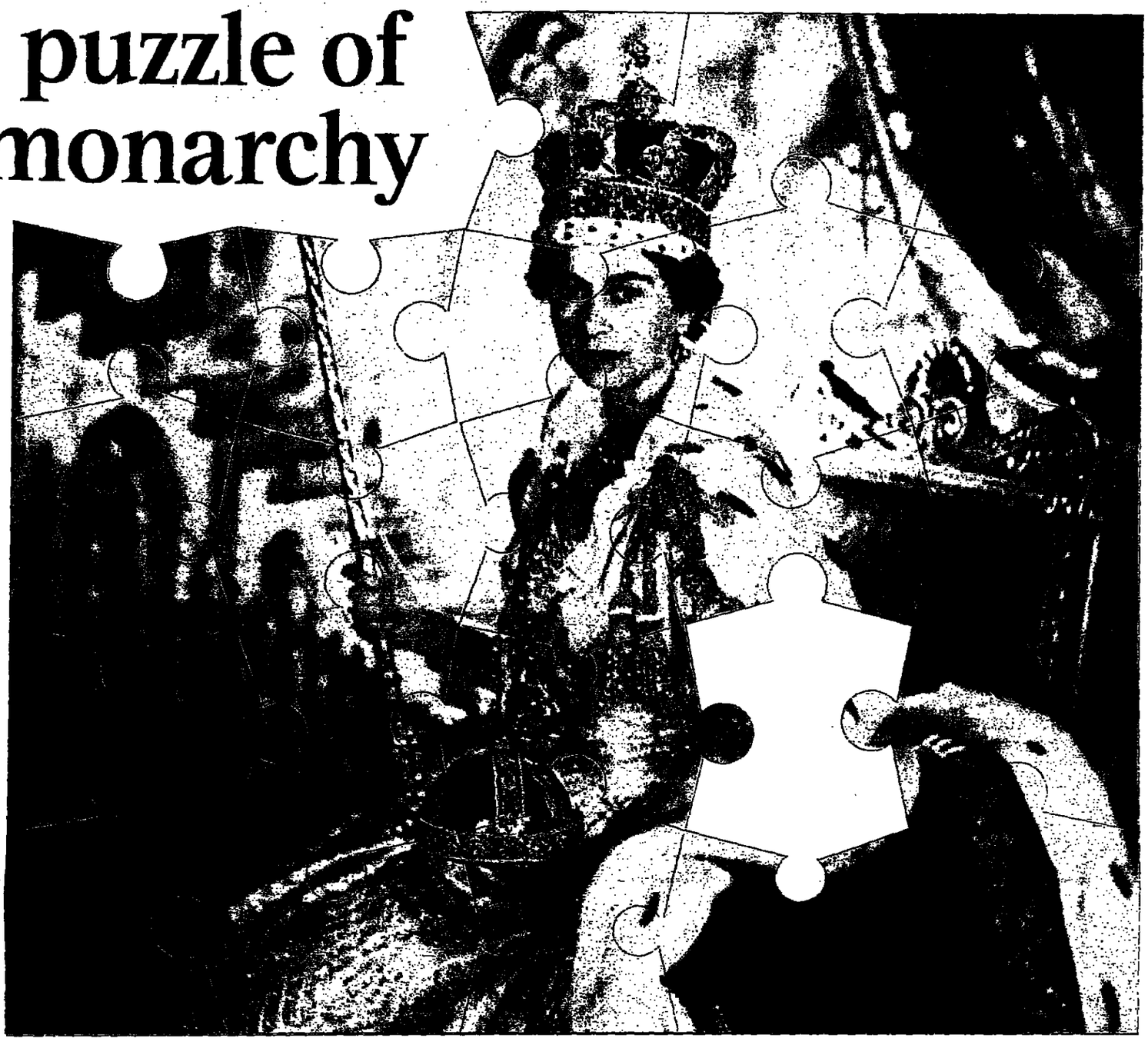
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WEEKEND

THE TIMES SATURDAY MAY 15 1993

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The puzzle of the monarchy



A week before the *Times*/Charter 88 debate on the monarchy, Marina Warner examines the myths of royalty that we still cling to — and our fear of change

When John Major told the House of Commons on December 9 last year that the separation of the Prince of Wales from his wife would have no constitutional repercussions, there was an audible hush in the chamber. The prince's future as head of the Church of England would not be affected, the prime minister went on, his children's ranking in the succession to the throne would be unaltered, and — this statement then caused a sharp, collective intake of breath — "there is no reason why the Princess of Wales should not be crowned queen".

The country has experienced to its cost the prime minister's uninquiring turn of mind. The declaration ran true to character: it presented wishes as facts, like a hopeful conjuror at a six-year-old's birthday party. In this case, there was probably nobody who believed him. The body politic's afflictions were made plain by his assertions, not by the personal unhappiness of the princess, the prince or the children, nor by the opportunistic bargaining of both parties with their sycophants among the press, nor even by the prospect of parallel, "his 'n' hers" coronations, royal households and staffs, nor the howling of the quasi-republicans among the papers, nor the blow to popular adulation of the royals.

All these factors opened up cracks in the building, and have a part to play in the crisis. But above all, by closing the question before it had even been put, let alone discussed, the prime minister revealed how little we know and are allowed to know about the monarchy today, about its influence, its relation to the organs of government, its powers, its responsibilities. As the obedient mouthpiece of the royal proclamation, Mr Major allowed the public a glimpse of the non-collaborative character of the monarchy: the queen's loyal subjects are not expected to have a say. The prime minister read the palace statement, and Parliament was supposed to accept it.

The Queen, responding to the crisis, soon decided to pay taxes and remove some of the members of her family from the Civil List. However, welcome as the decision was, it is interesting that again it was not aired in Parliament before the fact, but was announced by the palace and received with gratitude, as if it were a spontaneous, generous gift.

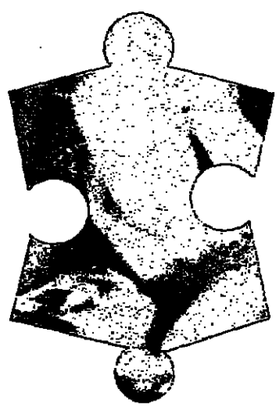
When the demands of Charter 88 were drawn up five years ago, the question of the monarchy was avoided. The founder members wanted to campaign for the reform of British democracy, they were acting on the urgent need to rebuild institutions, but the taboo surrounding the royal head of state was keenly felt. It was important to wait for the right moment, when people — from loyal subjects to aspiring citizens — could not refrain any longer from taking part in imagining the society we want.

Bagehot considered that, since 1832, "a Republic had insinuated itself beneath the folds of a Monarchy". He argued that the monarchy was a necessary fiction, which offered "a visible symbol of unity". The moment has now come to examine what this arrangement implies and whether, as fiction, as disguise, as symbol, it meets the nation's needs.

Many people feel deep anxiety about "attacking" the monarchy — and holding it up for scrutiny is feared to be an "attack" — because it appears to embody the country itself as a spiritual entity, to personify the imaginary homeland of being British. The royals still possess mythic personae, however much we have now eavesdropped on their bedroom talk, learnt of their personal eating habits and witnessed their fights: they are still hedged in divinity, their bodies hallowed by etiquette, their lives secrets to be stolen or vouchsafed. Republicanism in Australia was radically strengthened, not by the British abandonment of Commonwealth interests in favour of the European Community, but by widespread indignation at the wild uproar in the papers here at the *lèse-majesté* of Paul Keating, the Australian prime minister, when he presumed to touch the Queen.

In common usage the word "myth" means a lie, as well as a higher truth. Myths tell stories, and these stories are variously received, as blatant deceptions, as consoling fabrications, as inspiring higher truths. At the end of *The Republic*, Plato, who on the whole opposed all fictions, ends by declaring that maybe, somewhere, there is a saving myth. If the right myth can be woven, the right story told, the body politic will flourish. The British monarchy meets the conditions of myth, as romance and ideal, as symbol of unity and embodiment of nation, and its hold on the imagination, not just in this country, but all over the world, reveals the power of that myth.

Myths present themselves as eternal truths, but they are born in certain historical circumstances and grow, flourish or wither in relation to social change: this is probably one of the lessons of the past that offers the most hope, since it implies that we are not forever stuck in an endless narrative loop, like characters in an arcade video game which has run out of money. Some of the most exciting new work by historians such as David Cannadine and Linda Colley has revealed how many of the rituals surrounding kingship and affirming its relation to the national psyche have been rather recent innovations: the sons and daughters of Queen Victoria were married privately, in the family chapel, with a few close relatives and friends in attendance. Only during this recent phase of the house of Windsor have the weddings been huge public



ceremonies, claiming to erase differences and malaise in the joyous communal sharing of a fairy-tale.

Similarly, Edward VII was the first monarch to lie in state in St Stephen's Hall, Westminster, in 1910, for the public to file past his bier. What seemed a medieval custom, fitting for a sacred king in the necropolis of his forebears, was surprisingly a brand new notion.

Royal showbiz has increased not only in the liturgy but also, of course, in the mass media, and in spite of the simulation of ordinariness and access (the "walkabouts" and the television films about life at Balmoral), the public show disguises an increase in secrecy: the display of royal symbols, material and personal, masks a reluctance to unhedge the divinity. For instance, it is difficult even to obtain verification from the palace about pictures in the royal collection (not all of which are part of the Queen's personal estate but, in fact, belong to the nation), as well as to assess the amount of her wealth.

By contrast, when George IV died, and his successor was to be crowned, it was discovered that the coronation robes were missing. They had been bought by Madame Tussaud's at the sale of his personal effects at Phillips, in Bond Street, in 1831. The story may be apocryphal, but pre-Victorian attitudes to royal pomp certainly differed from today's: after two hours of his brother's funeral, the new king, William IV, felt enough was enough and left before the close.

This does not, of course, represent a better state of royal affairs, but it does serve to show that, far from being an unchanging and traditional fixture, the repository of ancient ideas of nation and identity, the monarchy is always being reshaped.

The kings of France could be watched at meals: after mass on Sunday at Versailles the royal family ate in public. Later, Louise XVIII revived the rite, in an effort to restore the ways of the *ancien régime*. James Fenimore Cooper joined the crowd one day, paid his few francs to look at "*le grand couvert*" of the king, and was shocked at the abject gazing of the people, their heads turning like sunflowers, he noted.

The Queen could propose that she and her family assemble at table for the visitors to Buckingham Palace and charge the public to see them in person, and it would certainly help towards the cost of the Windsor fire. But would it be desirable, acceptable, appropriate? Ideas about decorum change, as can ideas about the duties of heads of state in a democracy.

The announcement of Prince Charles's separation prompted many newspaper headlines about the end of the fairy-tale. One of the functions of the royal family was to hold up to the public "a presentation of ourselves behaving well", as Rebecca West once put it. Part of the consecration of modern monarchy derives from Queen Victoria's spectacle of domestic virtue. From the jubilee of 1887 onwards, Britain's international prestige appeared refracted in the Queen's edifying widowhood and her prolific dynasty: benevolent and civilised authority personified by a single family.

The introduction of personal ethics created complications for all her successors, notably Edward VIII, but never more so than today. The monarchy that is deemed to have no political power (although this aspect will be discussed at the Charter 88 debate, see left) falls back on moral authority.

will be good"). But today, the royals must not be seen to be doing anything the least bit political, so their waxworks just stand in a family group, in evening dress and full decorations, and face out, beaming. They are among the very few figures in the museum who are cordoned off and therefore cannot be included in a family snapshot.

They are also suffering the consequences of mythological breakdown, and have had to be rearranged in the light of recent events. So the Duchess of York, still beaming, now stands perilously near the brink of the dais, and the Prince and Princess of Wales have been parted, also still smiling.

"One's betters know best" is not necessarily a British habit of mind, however, a kind of London fog



affecting the nation's brain. This culture of deference is interwoven with institutional structures, with the lack of a participatory, vocal culture of citizenship. The problem has been aggravated by the political stagnation of the last decade. We, the public, have become a kind of pea under a huge pile of mattresses. We can feel its dead weight, as well as the weight of the sleeper at the top, whose presence may not add greatly to the burden — but counts.

Myths are a lens with which to look at afflictions: they can act like a burning glass, concentrating passions and morals, as in a Greek tragedy, or like a magnifier, exaggerating hopes and desires, as some pop idols do. But they can also suffer, like the eye, from a detached retina, and then little to nothing can be seen any more.

How the present monarchy is attached to the conditions of British life, and whether it can still offer a unifying vision for the people, are among the questions which will be raised during the Charter 88 debate on the monarchy, when speakers and participants from all sides will be contributing their views about the role of the present Queen, and the future of kings and queens of the United Kingdom.

© Marina Warner

Marina Warner is a writer and founder signatory of Charter 88.

JOIN THE MONARCHY DEBATE

● *THE TIMES*, in association with Charter 88, is pleased to invite readers to an all-day conference on "The Monarchy, the Constitution and the People", to be held at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, Westminster, London, on May 22.

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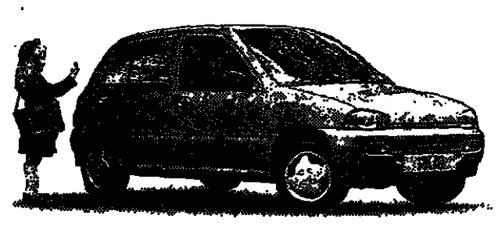
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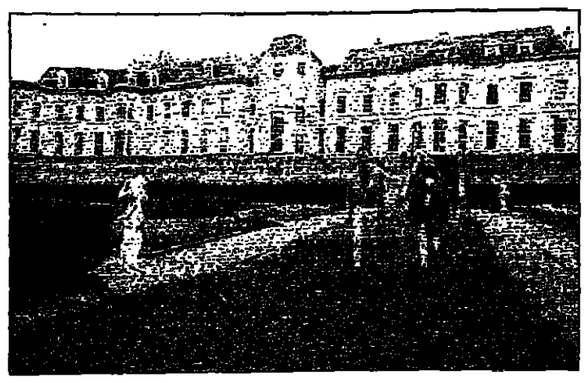
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Living like kings on horseback

Annie Rankin luxuriates in a weekend of top-class pampering at an Irish hotel



Riding high: all roads around the Kildare Hotel and Country Club (above left) seem to lead to a racetrack or a stud farm, and the open landscape invites a good gallop

Walk through the portico of the Kildare Hotel and Country Club, and opulence envelops you. Ireland's only AA five-star hotel is less than two years old and already it runs like a well-oiled, gleaming machine. This is no place for muddy shoes or crumpled ties.

The K club, as it is known locally, was clearly inspired by the Gleneagles Hotel in Perthshire. However, higher prices and fewer rooms (there are only 45 bedrooms and suites) should prevent overcrowding. Kildare may lack Perthshire's rugged landscape, but the hotel combines a country-house feel with parkland, where sport is the top priority (and which even has kennels for guests' best friends).

You may have to push the boat out to stay here, but an efficient crew keeps things shipshape and the passage smooth. No effort is spared when pampering clients — you have barely replaced the receiver before room service has arrived. And although the dining-room is a bit hushed, polish has not dampened the humour of friendly staff: you definitely know you are in Ireland.

Undoubtedly the golf course is the jewel in the K's crown. It took 5,000 new trees, 1.25 million tons of earth, 16 lakes and Arnold Palmer's design skills to create this challenging course. It has already hosted international championships and is tipped to become the best course in Europe within five years.

Snaking through the course is the River Liffey, which flows north from the Wicklow mountains in east Kildare to Dublin. Weeping willows line its banks, swans and wild geese take to the water, and below the surface lie brown trout and salmon to lure any resident anglers. Golfers have to chip across the water to the seventh green, which lies on an island.

The hotel is based on Straffan House, the neo-classical features of which are echoed in its new extensions. Aesthetically the best treat is the Jack Yeats room, named after one of Ireland's great painters, which contains no fewer than 15 original canvases. Tall windows and a commanding position keep the place flooded with light and provide splendid views across the emerald surroundings.

There was space to swing a whole alley of cats in our suite, and no disputes about the television: we had a set in each room, disguised as period furniture. Baroque drapes matched the sumptuous décor, while what can only be described as a triple bed was just asking for long lie-ins. Everywhere the attention to detail was staggering — from rose petals in silver fingerbowls and stools by the dining table for your handbag, to a weather forecast delivered daily.

The cuisine is broadly modern European, and the chef describes his dishes as simple, but that all depends on your yardstick — to us they seemed sophisticated, with the menu garnished with words like *timbale*, *coulis* and *sabayon*. Presentation is exquisite, owing as much to sculpture as cookery, while silver plate-warmers are removed with an Italianate flourish.

My favourite was pan-fried John Dory fillets with an anchovy, artichoke and tarragon dressing, while my companion raved about his poussin with mushroom stuffing. Wherever possible, the ingredients are local — such as wild Irish salmon, Irish stew, and "champ", the potato concoction served with black and white puddings — and Guinness has never tasted smoother. A large kitchen garden is being cultivated to do the home-grown honours.

The sommelier, Didier Fiat, was bronze medallist at last year's world wine competition, but his expertise is not matched by the wine list. Many of the wines are standard négociant labels, while most of the fine clarets are not yet fully mature. The house wines, both Bordeaux from Barton & Guestier, are nothing special, and the prices extortionate by UK standards.

Kildare is associated with nothing more closely than the horse. All roads lead to a racetrack or stud farm, and its open landscape is wholly conducive to a good gallop. We were fortunate to have a ride at Abbeylands with Charlie O'Neill who, as master of the hunt, is a big figure on the equestrian scene. Well mounted, a dozen of us clattered past Joseph Locke's local and out of the village of Clane. Mr O'Neill (whose motto is "every day on horseback is a blessing") has devised a trail of fences — banks and hedges, ditches and drops — over which he led us all a merry chase.

Spirits were riding high, and nothing seemed too much of an obstacle — even for those, like my companion, who had never jumped before.

The ebullient Mr O'Neill has set up a popular alternative to hunting — all the fun without a whiff of fox or hounds. Many riders are happy to pay the hunting cap to follow him and his rallying horn across an exhilarating series of fields and fences. He hopes similar ventures will take off elsewhere.

Not only had our ride ruined us for those sedate Home Counties' hacks, it had also been exhausting. But there was no peace for the bow-legged, as meal-time had come round again. After lunch in the clubhouse, huge drops of real Irish rain ruled out a game of croquet; but with indoor entertainment from snooker to squash, tennis, swimming and gym, there was everything a gourmet might need to make room for the next sitting.

It was tempting to believe Mr O'Neill's claim that "whoever made time made plenty of it", but there was too much to do on our doorstep, or along the corridor. Dublin is only 20 miles away — an easy day trip to see its Georgian architecture, especially Trinity College with the Book of Kells.

There was no time to cast flies, or to check out the castles and countryside of Kildare. The only disadvantage of a place like the K Club is being spoilt for choice. To sum up in the vernacular: that's some hotel for one hotel.

● *Annie Rankin was a guest of The Kildare Hotel and Country Club, Straffan, co. Kildare (010 3531 6273333). Double rooms start at £230 a night; special weekend rates available from £270 a person sharing, including two Irish breakfasts, two set dinners and one round of golf, fishing or riding.*

In spite of Ceausescu, Romania still reveals traces of a happier past, although the food is enough to make Dracula lose his appetite

In the footsteps of Stoker

When I told friends I was going on a week's holiday to Romania, responses varied from "should be interesting" to "did you say *holiday*?". They were right. It *was* interesting, and not much of a holiday.

My first three days were spent in Bucharest, staying with a friend who works for the Romanian Orphanage Trust. Before Ceausescu's determined push to replace Bucharest's old architecture with monolithic tower blocks, it must have been a beautiful city. Down backstreets there are still reminders of this — shuttered 19th-century houses with chickens scratching around in their back yards; delicate churches sandwiched with comic petiteness between tower blocks. Now, however, it is a grey place, where sunshine seems inappropriate, illuminating only the city's bleakness.

From Bucharest I travelled by train north into Transylvania. The "land of Dracula", as Romanian tourist guides would have it, seems far too beautiful and unthreatening to be home to the great bloodsucker. Even Dracula's castle, at Bran, about 90 miles north of Bucharest, is a misnomer. Vlad the Impaler once pillaged his way through Bran but certainly never lived there. And its whitewashed interior feels more like an Alpine chalet than Dracula's brooding mountain haunt.

Travelling through Transylvania, I saw villages whose horses and carts come straight from *The Brothers Grimm*; enjoyed a day's slushy end-of-season skiing; and tried to turn a blind eye to the endless rows of unfinished tower blocks. My abiding memory, however, was the food.

The best meal I had in Romania was Chinese, in the basement of Bucharest's Continental Hotel. It may seem ungracious, as a privileged westerner, to complain about the food in a country where, since Ceausescu's death in 1989, the price of a Bucharest metro ticket has gone up 20 times, petrol and sugar have gone up 25 times, and rice 30 times. But the food leaves a powerful impression, and it is hard to avoid the conclusion that Romanian cooking mirrors the parlous state of the country as a whole.

Sibiu, about 200 miles northwest of Bucharest, was once a Saxon border town, guarding the Carpathian frontier of the Austro-Hungarian empire against the Turks. Looking at the town centre, pastel-coloured 18th-century buildings around the main square, you could be in Prague, Vienna or Paris. Unlike these cities, however, there was only one restaurant on the square. Out of 200 or so items on its menu, only three or four were available. Pork cutlets, pork soup, "salad", bread.

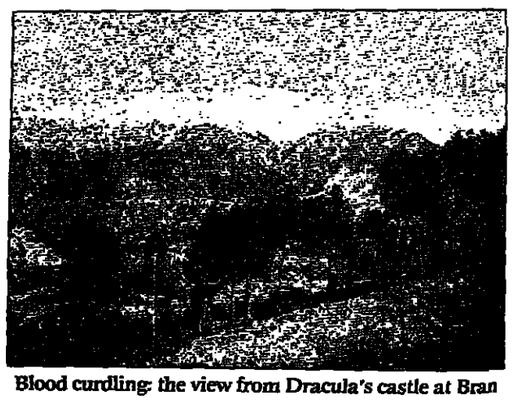
I ordered the soup, which came with a pair of pickled hot peppers. The soup was watery, transparent and had a chunk of pork submerged in it. In the whole week I ate no fresh vegetables.

In most towns there are coffee shops which serve *café naturel* — sweet, gritty, Turkish-style coffee — and small, glutinous cakes. Nothing on Mr Kipling, but they knock the edge off the pork. Coffee shops are the side of Romanian life of which the people are proudest. My friend in Bucharest explained how she occasionally binged on "diplomat cake", and a 27-year-old Romananian engineer I befriended on a train took me to a coffee shop when we arrived in Brasov, as a sign of his hospitality.

When I returned to Bucharest I was aching for something good to eat. For $3 I had breakfast in the Continental Hotel — croissants, jam and coffee, attended by liveried waiters. That evening, my last in the country, I had supper in the Premiera, a restaurant behind the Intercontinental Hotel in the centre of Bucharest. Being the least Romanian restaurant in Bucharest, it is the most popular with most of the city's expatriate community. The food is reliable — spaghetti bolognese, French onion soup, salad, liver and onions — and probably, by English standards, nothing special. But after a week on pork cutlets, it tasted better than a four-star Michelin meal.

EDWARD MARRIOTT

● *The author flew to Romania on Tarom for £195. A first class train fare from Bucharest to Sibiu, a six-hour trip, costs about 1500 lei (£1.50). Decorated in a 1950s style, many hotels are still state-run. Most charge at least £5-10 a night.*



Blood curdling: the view from Dracula's castle at Bran



Away from the tower blocks: the main square in Brasov is a reminder of an earlier age



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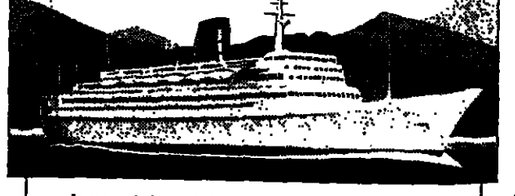
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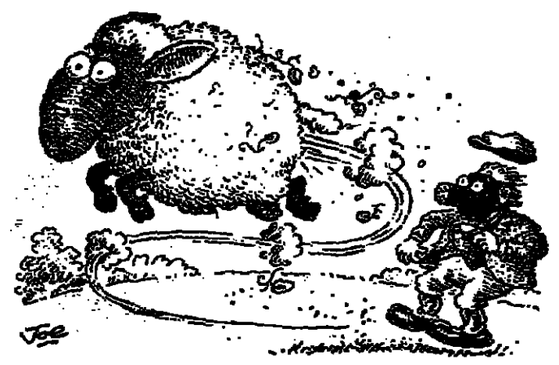


I have come to the conclusion that it is one of the great miracles of evolution that sheep have survived. As far as animals go the sheep is a real Trabant of a creature: reasonably reliable but never spectacular in performance, worth very little in part exchange, in need of regular and tedious servicing, and prone to serious if not deadly breakdowns. There aren't any spares available, either. But none of this is good reason to consider them to be dispensable, which I fear is the logical conclusion of the latest twist of government policy.

The trouble with sheep is that they break down too often. There are very few days when I do not have to take my metaphorical spanner to some old ewe that I find lying on the hard shoulder; every time it is the same exasperating problem. Many breeds of sheep common in lowland Britain, ours included, have an inbuilt design fault which means that should they ever happen to roll on to their backs, they are unable to right themselves again. It is like the old woman who sinks too low in an easy chair and has insufficient pull in her legs to get to her feet again without a helping hand. The ewes just lie there, legs in air, with a pained look on their faces.

They will occasionally thrash around trying to right themselves but soon give up, and drift into that typical ovine state of mind which welcomes death with open arms. Remember, it has been often said that sheep have only one ambition in life, and that is to die.

And so I cruise the fields looking for breakdowns, and with my foot I gently give the ewes a roll in the right direction. I used to grab a leg and pull them upright but I have found that more often than not they have become so besotted with suicidal intent that they will fight me off if I try to help. Of course, once they are upright there is still plenty of scope for them to defeat the shepherd's good intentions. Having lain on their backs for what could have been several hours — I have not yet resorted to total vigilance and camped out with them — their rumens have filled with gases from the fermenting grass, so the animal ends up the size of a barrage balloon. I have yet to right one and find it floats away, but it is not beyond the bounds of belief. When these gases are eventually vented there is no mistaking it. Take all the raspberries ever printed in Viz, add them together and



you will get an idea of the full force of it. But sometimes the blast is not forthcoming and I stand there like an anxious father waiting for his offspring to finish on the potty. What then?

Well, I have a little recipe. You take one cup of cooking oil and administer by mouth. The effect is quick and dramatic, and for safety you should retire a safe distance since from both ends of the sheep comes a deafening report which would do justice to the testing department of a whoopee cushion factory. I am glad to say that I have only had to administer this medicine once. Having caught the ewe, I asked my wife to run to the kitchen for oil. Alas, she poured from the wrong bottle (she gets a bit distraught over sheep, I think she identifies too much) and so instead of a dose of Mazola the ewe got a mouthful of Virgin Olive in which we had been soaking garlic. If you have ever stood next to the extractor fan of a rather poor Spanish restaurant, you will get the idea.

But prevention is better than cure, and in a few weeks it will be shearing time and the problem will be solved. It is only the weight of wool on the sheep's backs that provides them with a tempting, and entrapping, cushion when they roll over.

I read this week, however, that for hard-pressed sheep farmers, shearing may be a thing of the past. With the price of wool set to fall due to the government's having decided to withdraw price support, the costs of shearing a sheep will be more than the fleece is worth. Shepherds concerned for the health and welfare of their flocks will no doubt continue to shear for as long as they can afford to do so but undoubtedly some will either choose, or be forced, to let nature take its course and let the sheep, like the horse and the cow, lose their winter coats naturally. A sheep with a moulting fleece is a desperately sorry and untidy sight. If it happens to be standing next to a rank, overgrown and weed-ridden set-aside field, what a cameo of the folly of current farming policies it would provide.

I shall continue my daily round of humping and hauling sheep to their feet, and so will most farmers. But for the flocks of those who cannot be bothered, once again it is the animals who will bear the brunt of the new policy, and have to take it lying down.

Greetings from the dung heap

Josephine Fairley meets Lady Muck, the aristocrat of mail-order manure

ALAIN LOCHYER



How does your garden grow? Jane Down, alias Lady Muck, began with a £40-a-week enterprise allowance and now lectures around the country

Recipients of Muckagrams might be permitted mixed feelings upon tearing away the wrapping paper from their handy-sized, specially-delivered bag of cow-manure compost. Jane Down — alias Lady Muck and rapidly becoming the horticultural world's answer to Victoria Wood — is only sorry that she cannot see their expressions.

"The messages make me laugh," says the 31-year-old entrepreneur, who not only giftwraps the bags but personally pitchforks their contents. "My favourite is 'thinking of you . . . .'"

Ms Down, surely, had every right to feel a little piqued when her farmer father suggested that, to solve a pollution problem, she might like to shovel, bag and market the dung from his 350-strong herd of cows — even though, at the time, she was looking for gainful employment.

"He put it to me one morning, standing by a mountain of cow manure that was rapidly accumulating on the farm. 'Well, you're looking for a job that's exciting and enables you to travel and meet lots of people. How would you like to be big in compost?' "

In the seven years since her career in compost began, Ms Down has definitely proved the old adage that where there's muck, there's brass. From the smallest of beginnings — a £40-a-week enterprise allowance scheme — Ms Down now sells several hundred bags of the rich, crumbly, organic manure compost every week by mail order and through garden centres.

Thanks to a larger-than-life personality and a wicked sense of humour, Ms Down has transformed herself into one of horticulture's most colourful characters. She gives more than 100 lectures a year up and down the country — wearing her trademark hat garlanded with fake fruit and vegetables — and even snips the opening ribbon of the odd garden fête — with secateurs, naturally.

The name Lady Muck — surely a marketing dream — simply grew out of a family joke. Returning each morning for coffee after slaving over a hot compost heap (bacteria heats the manure to 150F), her mother would tease her: "Morning, Lady Muck, what's it like on the dung heap today?"

Her mother's joke backfired somewhat on her: "She's now known locally as Duchess Dung." More than that, the duchess's exploits are chronicled in a twice-yearly newsletter that Lady Muck sends to compost-loving customers.

If Ms Down had wanted to forsake the picturesque countryside where she was born, where Somerset joins Devon and Dorset, she probably could have landed herself a high-powered metropolitan job in advertising or marketing. As it was, she trained as a farm secretary and was faced with the prospect of earning £1 or £2 an hour, "which is still the going rate for farm secretarial work round here".

She should perhaps be grateful that her father had a run-in with the local water authority over slurry from his fields seeping into the water system. Keen to minimise pollution, Mr Down then invested heavily in a slurry separation machine that produces a rich, liquid fertiliser — now applied with an irrigator to feed the topsoil — and leaves a pile of solids. Ms Down discovered that, when composted correctly and blended with 20 per cent sphagnum peat moss (from a sustainable source, she is swift to point out), the manure makes a perfect, sterile planting medium and top dressing, ideal for everything from window boxes to lawn feed.

By the time it has matured fully and is ready for dispatch, the characteristic farmyard odour has disappeared.

But it is one thing to know how to aerate such a vast compost heap correctly — with a pitchfork — or to be able to bag it by hand (as she did before she could afford the investment in mechanical equipment to perform the task); it is quite another to persuade shops and nurseries to give it shelf space.

"At one particular garden centre, I was so desperate to get the sale, I said, 'Oh, and I do in-store promotions'. He asked me what I meant, and I had to think ever so quickly; so I looked at the logo on the bag and said, 'I'll come in and dress up like the illustration and spend the day promoting the vegetables, wearing a hat covered in fruit and vegetables'. At that point this was a complete lie. But it did encourage him to order two pallets."

The logo had been inspired by an Easter bonnet competition Ms Down had won as a child with a hat festooned with fruit and vegetables.

In the three weeks before her planned promotion, she set about recreating the winning bonnet, with a Mary Quant fold-up cotton sun hat and a string of plastic vegetables. (She has now traded up to a more sophisticated silk and straw concoction.)

Following success at garden-centre promotions, she began to receive lecture requests. "I began with one called 'On The Way to the Compost Heap', graduated to 'Cider with Rosie' evenings — complete with cheese from our cows and local cider — and now give talks on my obsession, 'The Georgian Gardener'." Ms Down is booked as far ahead as 1995, giving a couple of lectures a week. "I took to it like a duck to water," she admits, with evident surprise.

Her passion for gardening was germinated purely by "field experiments" with her own compost. She now has a wealth of horticultural knowledge, gleaned partly from a vast collection of second-hand gardening books. "Currently, my bedtime reading is Charles Darwin's *The Formation of Vegetable Mould Through the Action of Worms, with Observations on Their Habits.*"

At one time, she was such a regular on the roads of south-west England in her father's Land Rover and trailer "that the Southwest Truckers made me an honorary member and gave me a sun visor for the Land Rover", she says, laughing uproariously.

Now a haulage company transports her compost, and there is part-time help with the more backbreaking tasks in a specially constructed 5,000 sq ft barn on her father's land. But there is still one job Ms Down prefers above all others: those Muckagrams, the bags of compost she personally giftwraps and dispatches with customers' messages. "In fact, next time I get the bags reprinted, I'm thinking of adding the message 'sealed with a loving kiss'."

● *Lady Muck's compost is available for £6.95 a bag including P&P, or £3.50 for a Muckagram, from Marshwood House, Whitegate, Forton, Chard, Somerset TA20 4HL (0460 20822).*

Feather report

Fierce curlew stands guard



Territorial tartar: the dipper protects his rocky streams

The lowlands of Scotland have been turning red this week. I am not talking of political passions, but of the red campion lining the roadside and the woodland edges. It is a good moment to be there — especially to make your way along a lowland glen in hills such as the Lammermuirs or the Pentlands.

On grassy slopes going up from the burn, a clamour breaks out: a carrion crow has settled on the hillside, and a curlew is making loud, plaintive calls, swooping down on it. The crow cringes as the big mottled wings beat above it, passing within inches of its head. The curlews have begun to incubate among the scraggy gorse and are not giving the crow a meal of new-laid eggs.

As you climb higher, there is more and more yellow gorse in flower and wafts of its scent, something like burnt toffee, come rolling down. On the tufty grass between the gorse bushes, a flock of rooks and jackdaws is feeding noisily.

Now, down in the valley below, a curlew is beginning to trill — faster and faster, more and more ecstatic. It sweeps past you, wings trembling, beak open like curved tongs.

What is that bright object, visible down there in the field beyond the burn? It is an oystercatcher sitting on its nest, unable to conceal its black and white feathers and long red beak. With the help of its mate it will defend the eggs as fiercely as the curlews.

The hills are getting higher, but now the road turns down and meets the burn once more. A small, moth-like shape skims away across the water with a scolding note, but when it settles, you can see it is a brown bird, with a white breast edged at the bottom with orange. It is a dipper, the quintessential bird of rocky streams.

It is feeding down there on the stream bed. Suddenly it emerges and whirrs away once more. However, you know you will see it again. Its territory will come to an end where the next dipper's begins.

Common sandpipers have just arrived back, and you are approaching a perfect site for them. The banks of the burn open out, and it winds its way through a broad stretch of pebbles. A light brown bird with a white wing-bar, its flickering wing-beats and tittering call are unmistakable.

The path is winding up the slope again now and heather is taking over. Suddenly the whole hillside opposite bursts into sound. Barking noises, gobbling noises, then a loud clear call: "Go-back, go-back". It is the red grouse courting and quarrelling. But where are they? At last there is a movement — a black shape is on the wing, and it lands. You see the stocky outline of the grouse — and there just beyond it is another, which your bird has come to chase. I will leave you up there, with the grouse cackling, the skylarks and meadow pipits singing — and now another curlew hurling itself at a crow, its ringing cries drowning everything.

DERWENT MAY

● **What's about:** *Birders — watch out for spotted flycatchers flying after insects. Twitchers — lesser grey shrike at Fair Isle, Shetland; Caspian tern at Southfield Reservoir, Humberside. Details from Birdline, 0891 700222. Calls cost 36p per minute cheap rate, 48p per minute at all other times.*

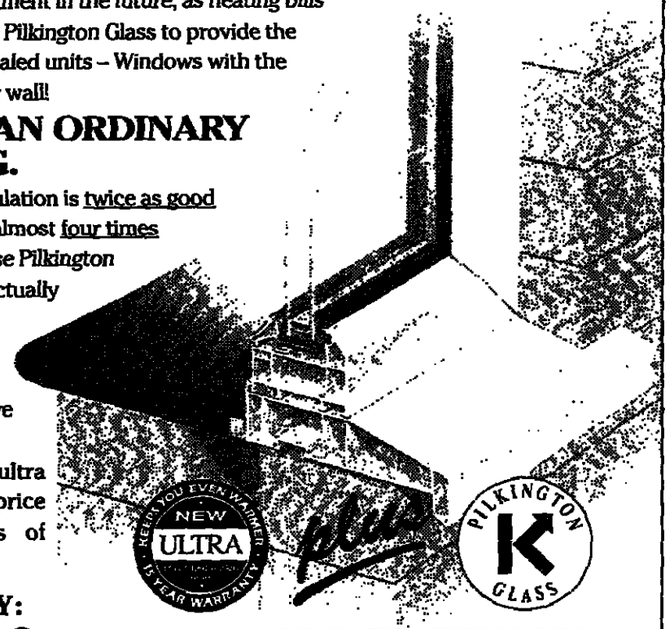
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Irish secret worth telling

Jack Crossley reluctantly surrenders the location of his favourite pub, in west London

TIM BISHOP



Irish feast: Cornelius O'Grady, of the Imperial Arms in west London, "has never felt the need to boil anything in a bag except the occasional offending human"

I am blessed with having a good local pub and would rather keep quiet about it, but some fool has written us up in a good pub guide and, worse, got us into the finals of a "best London pub" competition.

I blame the landlord, Cornelius O'Grady, who does crazy things, such as flying in Rossmore oysters from co. Cork and offering a take-away service, as well as serving them in the half shell on a bed of ice and Irish seaweed. September will see him competing in the national oyster-opening championship.

His wife Sue does not help by insisting that every glass is polished with Irish linen, and that nobody's glass is allowed to be empty for more than a millisecond.

All this attracts unwanted attention, as does the absence of a juke box. (Although there is an unloved fruit machine, and the Irish crack can sometimes become maudlin with scratchy recordings of John McCormack taking Kathleen home again).

Everything is clean without being clinical. Pub cats Rosie and P.J. O'Grady add a homely touch, but don't go pinching Rosie's favourite bar stool.

There is no pub grub. Mr O'Grady has never felt the need to boil anything in a bag except the occasional offending human. His food comes fresh from the markets, and on saints' days, holy days and Cheltenham races the menu becomes an Irish feast.

St Patrick's day, for instance, produced shamrock soup, Galway Bay fish soup, Wexford mussels, Cashel blue cheese, fresh asparagus from Kerry, Irish smoked salmon, Corrigan sausages with champ, Dublin coddle, Irish stew, boiled Limerick gammon and cabbage, Dublin Bay prawns, Wicklow mountain lamb, soda bread and Gaelic coffee.

Here is Mr O'Grady's guide through his own delicious Irish bog:

Galway Bay fish soup: Crab bodies, prawn, smoked haddock, plaice, whiting, saffron, cayenne pepper, tomato.

Wexford mussels: Wild, not farmed. From Rossmore, like the oysters.

Cashel blue: not unlike Stilton, "but better".

Irish smoked salmon — smoked in ash and not oak.

Corrigan sausages: Full of the real stuff and peppery, the way the Irish like them.

Champ: Irish peasant dish. Boiled potatoes mixed with a choice of nettle tops, young green cabbage, spinach, chives, and scallions cooked in milk.

Dublin coddle: layer the pan with potato and sliced onions and add sausage and bacon in layers. Add stock and bake in the oven.

Irish stew: lamb, potato, onion, celery, white turnip, leek. A plain white stew with no coloured vegetables. Traditionally cooked in a three-legged pot with more vegetables than meat. No carrots.

Boiled Limerick gammon and cabbage: boil the cabbage in the water used for the ham. Using gammon is somewhat extravagant, so cheaper cuts of bacon are more commonly used.

Dublin Bay prawns: "there is only one Dublin Bay prawn. It is a species in its own right, though not confined to Dublin Bay any more than Dover soles are confined to Dover. Ours, if you must know, come live from Scotland. But nothing looks and tastes like a Dublin Bay prawn except a Dublin Bay prawn."

Soda bread: "a traditonal peasant, poverty thing. White flour mixed with bran or the rougher granary wheats. Good flour was too expensive. Mixed with baking soda and sour milk."

Gaelic coffee: "coffee as black as night and as hot as the passions. Cream as thick as a rogue's tongue. A generous measure of Irish whiskey, three or four spoonfuls. Five ounces of freshly brewed coffee and a good spoonful of sugar. Top it with slightly whipped cream. You have to be able to pour it over the back of a spoon."

The first item on the menu is left to the end because it is the most Irish item of all.

Shamrock soup: it has no shamrock in it. It is watercress, and Mr O'Grady says with an Irish twinkle that watercress and shamrock are of the same family. This may be true, but I refuse to check it. When magic is around, hang in there.

There is one thing more left to say. Mr O'Grady is a former P & O chef and Mrs O'Grady sharpened her claws in the cut-throat world of London advertising agencies. They run a tight ship. Serious drinking and eating is revered, drunks are given the heave-ho. Women on their own can and do enjoy drinking and eating there.

Mr O'Grady is a large gentleman. It would not be safe to call him fat, but when his substantial body is touching the bar, he still has a long way to reach for his drink.

And here is the bit they made me put in: if you must know, the pub is called the Imperial Arms and it stands at the Fulham end of the King's Road, west London. Quite close to the gasworks.

RESTAURANT WATCH

XXXXX

Capital fun with music, dancing and clowns

LONGER Q
Quaglino's
16 Bury Street, London SW1 (071-930 6767)
From this weekend Quag's will be open with music and dancing until 3am on Friday and Saturday nights. *Robin Young writes.* The late-night supper menu includes crustacea, grills and salads. Last orders for food, 2am. Antipasti bar 11.30am-midnight daily; restaurant noon-3pm daily, and 5.30pm-1am Monday to Thursday, 11pm Sunday. Reckon £30 a head, and book well in advance.

IN THE FAMILY WAY
Smollensky's on the Strand
105 Strand, London WC2 (071-497 2101)
Smollensky's Balloon
1 Dover Street, London W1 (071-491 1199)
The two share the honours as Family Restaurants of the Year in the newly published Egon Ronay's Heinz Guide *... and Baby Comes Too* (Pan, £8.99). At weekend lunches (booking essential) they send in the clowns and magicians, and other entertainers. No minimum lunchtime brasserie charge. Live music each evening in the Strand, with dancing Fridays and Saturdays. American style "pre-fix" menu for adults: £9.85. Open noon-midnight except Sundays (close 10.30pm in Dover Street, 10pm in The Strand) and Fridays and Saturdays in the Strand (open to 12.30am).

TENNER ROLE
Maxwell's
8/9 James Street, London WC2 (071-836 0303)
The new 300-seater, £2 million restaurant below the Royal Opera House made its formal debut this week. Waiters in Tom Gilbey waistcoats; celebrity portraits on the walls; burgers, *teriyaki* and black-bean soup on the menu. Reckon about £10 a head. Noon-midnight, seven days a week. No bookings.

Gathering the clan

ENTERTAINING AT HOME: Lady Claire Macdonald

Entertaining means having people to stay. You can't really ask people to come over to Skye just for dinner. It's much easier in winter when the hotel closes and we have the whole house to spill into. I love having people. Godfrey, my husband, likes to pretend to be anti-social, but he's more gregarious than anyone.

We have at least 100 people staying each year, and then there are all our Kinloch guests. Last Christmas, we were 25, which was lovely. I loathe New Year and live in perpetual hope I'll be able to slope off to Mauritius for a fortnight — that would be my idea of heaven. This New Year we had a very peaceful time, though. We were only ten, which was ideal.

We do a lot of entertaining through the clan connection. People ring up saying, "We're just down the road in Broadford and thought we'd drop by — just a bowl of soup will do." You can guarantee there'll always be a disaster. There's someone sitting swathed head to toe in tartan, and the sink packs up or the fridge door falls off.

I tend to do all the cooking, but it's a real family operation, with everyone helping out. Godfrey was an excellent cook before we married. The children can't believe it — "Dad? He can hardly boil an egg" — but he taught me all sorts of things, like adding a few drops of Angostura bitters to home-made truffles, which makes all the difference.

If you've written cookery books, people somehow assume you're going to be a wonderful cook, so invariably I feel that whatever I serve is going to be an awful anti-climax. Frankly, I often feel I'd be better off serving people scrambled eggs.

A typical supper might be something like crab cakes with tartare sauce. We get such wonderful crab here, and it's very filling, so you don't need to do anything with it. Or maybe a salad — warm artichoke hearts, whatever you want.

I love lemon puddings. You can't beat a lemony pud after a rich dinner — something like a sharp lemon mousse, with raspberry sauce.

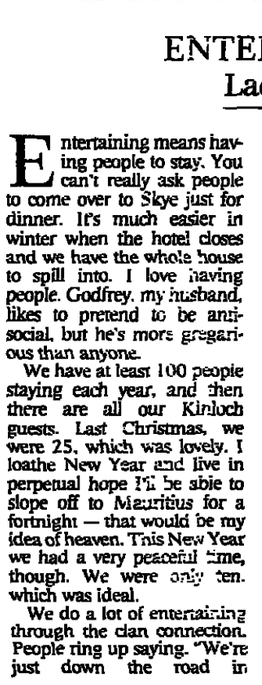
Godfrey and I would live on things like pasta and rice if we were left to our own devices. Our favourite supper dish is pasta with lots of really good olive oil, chopped garlic, skinned, seeded tomatoes, mushrooms cooked till almost crisp, chopped black olives and masses of parsley.

Supplies are something of a headache here. My fruit and veg come from the local undertaker. There's a marvellous butcher — Macbeth in Forres — and fish merchant, Andy Race, who's based in Mallaig.

I firmly believe in short cuts, though not at the cost of the end result. The sad thing is that everyone is so busy these days. I think you should brush away all the guilt and just do one really good course — say a kedgeree, or a big salad — that's a very good American idea, although they only seem to have two sauces, blue cheese or soap. If you want a first course, maybe some finger food with drinks. There's no point in having people if you can't be with them.

Nothing gives me more pleasure than having people I really love around a table. I often think entertaining is the best thing in life.

DISH OF THE DAY



CHEF: Joël Antunès, 33.

RESTAURANT: Les Saveurs, 37a Curzon Street, Mayfair, London W1 (071-491 8919).

PRESENT: Cooks at the Mayfair basement French restaurant which now rivals the Mirabelle.

PAST: Antunès cooked for Bocuse, Troisgros and Marc Meneau before opening in London 18 months ago.

PERSONAL: He scuba dives in Cambodia in his spare time.

PREDICTION: Michelin inspectors paid him 15 visits last year: can they hold the star much longer?

DISH: Marbré d'anguille aux poussés de poireaux (marbled terrine of eel with baby leeks).

PRICE: On table d'hôte menu, £26 for two courses, £36 for three at dinner; £18 for three-course lunch.

R.Y.



Island story: Lady Macdonald runs a family operation

Invergarry crab cakes

(serves 4 as a main course, 6 as a starter)

1 lb crabmeat, white and brown mixed

4 slices of bread (white or brown), crusts removed, and made into crumbs

1 tbsp mayonnaise

2tsp English mustard

1 tbsp Worcester sauce

6 tbsp breadcrumbs to coat the crabcakes

sunflower oil

Mix the crabmeat, breadcrumbs, mayonnaise, mustard and Worcester sauce until all are thoroughly combined. Shape the mixture into eight medium-sized cakes, or 12 small ones. Dip your hands in a bowl of flour as you shape the cakes because the mixture is rather sticky.

Coat the cakes with the breadcrumbs, pressing them in on both sides, and fry in a non-stick frying pan if possible with 2 to 3 tbsp sunflower oil, until the crabcakes are golden brown and crispy on both sides. Place on an ovenproof dish lined with two or three thicknesses of absorbent kitchen paper. Serve with tartare sauce.

Tartare sauce

For the flavoured vinegar:

½ pt wine vinegar — red or white

½ a skinned onion, bayleaf, small bunch parsley, a few black peppercorns

Simmer the above till the liquid has reduced by half. Strain and set on one side.

For the tartare sauce:

1 large egg

1 egg yolk

½ tsp salt

1 tsp French mustard

1 tsp caster sugar

freshly ground black pepper

1 garlic clove, skinned and chopped

½ pt sunflower oil

the flavoured reduced vinegar

3-4 tbsp very hot water

2 hard-boiled eggs, chopped

1 tbsp chopped stoned black olives

2tsp chopped capers

1 tbsp chopped parsley

3-4in cucumber, skinned, seeds removed, and diced quite finely

Into a food processor put the egg, yolk, salt, mustard, sugar, pepper and chopped garlic. Whiz, adding the oil drop by drop, then in a thin trickle. Whiz in the flavoured vinegar, and enough hot water to make a consistency like lightly whipped cream. Scrape this mayonnaise into a bowl and stir in the chopped hard-boiled eggs, chopped olives, capers and parsley, and the diced cucumber. Keep the sauce in a covered container in the fridge until required.

Interview by Deirdre Shields

● *Lady Claire Macdonald runs Kinloch Lodge Hotel on the Isle of Skye. She is the 1982 Glenfiddich Writer of the Year, and has written ten cookery books.*

Juiced-up tomatoes

SUPERMARKETS are planning to bombard their customers with unfamiliar varieties of fully ripe tomatoes this year. In a seasonal outbreak of tomato wars a fortnight ago, the major food-retailing chains unveiled their plans to reverse a marked decline in the consumption of fresh tomatoes, which market research told them — although anyone could have, really — was to be blamed on the fact that the things had become totally tasteless.

Now the supermarket chains are falling over each other in their anxiety to improve the flavour and texture of the fruit they offer for sale.

Tesco announced that, after four years' development, an exclusive new variety called Flavourtop, which was test-marketed in selected stores last year, will become available nationally this month.

Though Flavourtop is grown in Kent and said to have the aromatic flavour reminiscent of an old-fashioned English garden tomato, it is derived from a southern French variety, Eloise, itself descended from near-wild Peruvian stock. Its rampant growth and susceptibility to devastating root disease make it difficult to grow commercially, but Tesco's suppliers now have 38 acres in production.

If the Eloise clone fails, there are two other varieties already identified that have been judged worthy to succeed to the Flavourtop title.

Safeway hit back at Tesco's initiative by announcing the launch of its own premium range of three varieties under the label FlavourGrown. Safeway hopes that FlavourGrown will account for 15 per cent of the company's tomato sales this year.

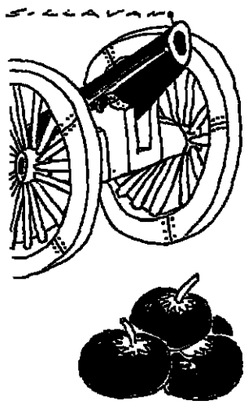
Two of Safeway's selected varieties will be grown in the United Kingdom. They are Momotara, a large cerise-pink tomato which originated in Japan, and a small variety, between cherry and standard size, as yet known only by the code reference N-92. The third variety is a Mediterranean beef tomato, which will be ripened on the vines in southern Spain and Greece.

Safeway's FlavourGrown varieties will be more expensive than its standard tomatoes, which are British-grown Gourmet and Dutch Tipico, but Colin Smith, Tesco's produce trading director, said that his company will bear the extra labour costs involved in growing Flavourtops and sell them for the same as standard tomatoes. The current price is 75p for a pack of six.

Safeway has doubled its supplies of Momotara this year, after its success in trial sales and taste tests, and the tomato will be available in all stores for the first time from mid-May. In larger stores, it currently sells at £1.35 a lb.

FOOD SPY

Supermarkets are locked in a battle for flavour



For the company, the turn to new varieties is a change of course: three years ago Safeway was experimenting with reintroducing traditional varieties, such as the striped Tigerella and the old gardeners' favourite, Ailsa Craig. Both have now been abandoned in the belief that more modern varieties are both tastier and more reliable.

Marks & Spencer will be continuing sales of its well-established premium varieties, the medium-sized exclusive Melrow, which is grown for M&S in the United Kingdom, and Delice, sun-ripened and hand-picked tomatoes imported from France, which sell at up to 35p each. Delice is the trade name for a variety also known as Melody.

Sainsbury's top-line tomatoes include Momotara, introduced to Sainsbury's stores this year; Flavia, a small tomato exclusive to Sainsbury's, which the company says is "left longer on the vine for fuller flavour"; and Manhatten, a variety which Tesco also sells under the name Royal Delicious.

Among cherry tomatoes, Gardener's Delight is now challenged by apparently superior varieties such as Cherry Belle and Cherry Wonder, which can pack in more sweetness, and also the yellow Songold from Holland.

Despite all this excitement about tomato varieties, there is no requirement on retailers to show the variety when selling the fruit. All that must be disclosed is the country of origin. Moreover, tomato variety names can be those chosen by the growers, or ones selected by the shops. That is why Flavourtop could change identity, and why N-92, by the time it reaches the Safeway shelves in mid-June, will have been given a name Safeway is satisfied does not conflict with other retailers' choices.

NOR is variety all that matters in tomato taste. The amount and nature of feed is of great importance. The more water the plants take, the more dilute the taste. The more salt they can be persuaded to accept, the stronger the flavour. Light is important, too, in achieving ripeness, which is why winter tomatoes are invariably insipid and tough-skinned.

The premium varieties on sale now — of which Melrow and Flavourtop have seemed to me to be outstanding — will be even better further into summer. The most flavourful varieties are likely to disappear from sale some time in October, depending on the weather, when they pass their best.

Meanwhile, the companies differ as to how they should be stored. M&S sells Melrow from chilled cabinets for freshness, but Tesco insists that as tomatoes are originally tropical, they should never be stored at less than 10C, and so advises against putting Flavourtop in the refrigerator. My own experience suggests that tomatoes lose flavour fast at low temperatures.

ROBIN YOUNG

Nice and spicy does it

Frances Bissell is inspired by herbs and spices brought back from Thailand



AFTER my last visit to Thailand, I came back with my usual bulging shopping bag. It contained round, pale fawn cakes of palm sugar, which I use to sweeten coconut custards or crèmes brulées. These were one of my favourite sweets in Thailand, served in the thin coconut shell in which they were cooked.

Also in my shopping bag I had a large roll of banana leaves, which I cut and staple into small cup shapes to steam spicy fish "custards" that make excellent starters.

But by far the most space in my bag was taken up with herbs and spices: bundles of long, pale, fat stems of lemon-grass, thorny twigs of Kaffir lime leaves, and a hank of pandanus leaves which I bought in the food section of Chatuchak market in a Bangkok suburb. Of course, the same leaves and herbs, as well as the palm sugar, are available here in most Chinese supermarkets. I use them for adding subtle fragrance and flavour to fish and meat curries cooked to authentic Thai recipes, and also in my own cooking. Sometimes I want the taste of Kaffir lime leaves, but not in a Thai green curry.

Of course, these green curries are marvellous, quite addictive in fact, and I made sure I came back with the right ingredients for them. During my visit I was given a large vacuum-packed portion of green curry paste and one of red curry paste; they keep well, and I am still using them. Sometimes I add the green curry paste, sparingly, if I am frying chicken or duck breasts. I'll just use a little, a very little, since it is fiercely chilli-hot, in a sauce made of the pan juices and some cream.

Not long ago my husband, Tom, and I were planning dinner for friends. I was in the mood for oriental flavours. We ran through the usual mantra of beef, pork, lamb, veal, duck or chicken. And then we established that it should be nothing too overpowering, since Tom was planning to open not only fine red burgundy and claret but a rather precious white burgundy. For those who like to know these things, it was a 1983 Chassagne Montrachet premier cru, with a 1976 Grand Echezaux DRC served before a 1971 Ch. Cheval Blanc.

In the end we hit on a novel compromise, and I came up with a new dish, duck and ginger ravioli in an oriental broth. Three large, round pasta envelopes were filled with minced duck spiced with a little ginger, and flavoured, as was the broth, with lime leaves. I highly recommend it. The experiment prompted me to develop the crab and cucumber recipe for a subsequent dinner. With this dish, which had noticeable chilli in it, we served Blanck's 1983 Vendange Tardive Gewürztraminer from Alsace, which accompanied it magically.

If you cannot get lime leaves or lemon grass, substitute grated lime or lemon zest, or, for the latter, lemon balm or lemon verbena.

DIANA LEADBETTER



Warm oriental crab and cucumber salad

(serves 4)

1 large cucumber
1 tbsp grapeseed oil
2 or 3 cloves garlic, peeled and crushed
1 tsp shredded ginger
2 or 3 Kaffir lime leaves, shredded
¼-½ tsp Thai green curry paste or powder
2 or 3 stalks of mint, plus extra for garnish
1-2 tsp soy sauce
fresh basil leaves
2 tsp lime juice
1 tsp brown sugar
2-3 tsp toasted sesame oil
½lb/230g fresh white crab meat

Halve the cucumber, remove the seeds, and thinly slice. Heat the oil in a frying pan, and gently fry the cucumber, garlic, ginger and lime leaves. Cook for five to eight minutes until the cucumber is bright green and wilted. Stir in the curry paste and shredded mint leaves, and then add the soy sauce, shredded basil leaves, lime juice and sugar. Cook together for a minute or two more until the flavours have blended. Remove from the heat, and stir in the sesame oil. Arrange the cucumber in a circle on four plates, and spoon the crab meat into the middle. Decorate with mint leaves.

Variations

You can use the same method to make an excellent salad from thinly sliced rare roast beef. For a more substantial dish, cook, according to the directions on the packet, some egg or rice noodles, or rice vermicelli. Rinse and drain them. Heap on to plates with the cucumber and crab or beef on top. With this, you will want more dressing, which can be made by mixing grapeseed oil, toasted sesame oil, lime juice, sugar and soy sauce. The perfect garnish for such salads comes in those minuscule packs of dry roasted peanuts that the airlines hand out with drinks. Crush them while still sealed in the packet, open and scatter on the salad, or add to the sauce at the last minute.

Duck and ginger ravioli in oriental duck broth

(serves 6)

The broth

1x4lb/1.80kg duck (approximate weight) with giblets
half an onion
1 tomato, halved
1 piece of celery stalk
1in/2.5cm piece of fresh ginger
1 lemon grass stalk
4 Kaffir lime leaves

Remove a small piece of duck fat from the cavity, and use it to grease a frying pan. In this, brown the onion and tomato until well caramelised. Put in a large pan with 5-6pt/2.85-3.45l water, together with the remaining seasonings. Set over a low heat. While the vegetables are caramelising, dismantle the duck. Put the liver, heart and gizzard to one side after trimming and cleaning. Remove all the skin and fat, which can be slowly rendered and stored for other uses. Remove the breasts, and put to one side for another dish.

Take the meat from the thighs and drumsticks and put to one side. Chop the remaining carcass, wings and neck, and brown well before adding to the stock pot. Simmer over very gentle heat to prevent the broth becoming cloudy, and let it cook for several hours. The cooking should be so gentle that the surface should hardly break. Strain through a sieve lined with wet muslin or a clean J cloth into a clean saucepan. Measure out 3pt/1.70l of stock and reduce to about 2pt/1.15l over a very low heat. Cool and refrigerate until required, and make the pasta dough and filling.

Filling

meat from the thighs, drumsticks and two fillets beneath the breasts, cut into 1in/2.5cm pieces
duck liver, gizzard and heart
1 free-range egg
1 tsp finely chopped or grated fresh or crystallised ginger
2 Kaffir lime leaves, finely shredded
4 spring onions or a leek trimmed and finely chopped
2-3oz/60-85g fresh breadcrumbs
salt
pepper

Fry the meat and giblets in a little duck fat for four to five minutes, and then mince, finely chop, or roughly process. Mix with the rest of the ingredients, cover, and refrigerate until required.

Pasta (ravioli)

10½oz/300g strong plain flour
3 free-range eggs

Mix by hand or in a food processor, and roll out by hand or by machine to the thickness of a 20p coin.

To assemble and cook

Lightly mark on the pasta 3½in/9cm rounds with a pastry cutter or other suitable shape. Place a generous soupspoon of filling in the centre. Moisten around the edges, and cover with another sheet of pasta. Press down around the filling, eliminating any air pockets, and then cut out 3½in/9cm ravioli. Continue until you have made 18 of these. Cook them in boiling water for a few minutes, and serve in heated soup plates, pouring the boiling duck broth over them. You can float some extra shredded ginger and Kaffir lime leaf in the broth if you like.

Continue the oriental flavours with this richly flavoured ice-cream. Toast thin strips of coconut flesh or desiccated coconut for garnish. Coconut milk and coconut extract are available in cans in oriental and some of the high street supermarkets. The extract is thicker and richer than the milk, as double cream is to single cream.

Coconut and banana ice cream

(serves 4-6)

3 ripe bananas
4 tbsp plain sugar syrup, or syrup made with palm sugar
1x14oz/400g can coconut milk or extract

Put all the ingredients in a blender and process until smooth. Freeze in an ice-cream maker, sorbetière, or a container in the freezer. If using the latter method, the mixture will need stirring from time to time.

Pleasant surprises in store

BUILDING A WINE CELLAR: 3



WHAT is the point of storing wine under your own, probably less-than-perfect roof, if the professionals can do it for you? One good reason is the high annual storage charge levied by wine merchants, more than £8 a case a year in some establishments. Another is security, or the lack of it. Those who are thinking of cellaring their wine somewhere other than their own home, fondly imagining it will be as safe as houses, have plenty of recent wine-trade horror stories to dissuade them.

What simple cellarers may not realise when they store their wine elsewhere is that each and every case must be clearly identified as theirs, otherwise, if the receivers are called in, all the wine merchants' chattles are sold off regardless.



THE money goes to the firm's biggest creditors. Such was the case with several merchants who have recently gone down to the tune of millions of pounds' worth of their customers' wine. Even the wise, century-old Wine Society was caught out a few years ago. It was forced to repurchase claret to fulfil its members' orders. *Caveat emptor.*

Even if you assure yourself of your wine merchant's security, other cellarage details need attention. Most merchants charge cellarage on an annual per case basis, but this is not the whole story. Handling charges — checking your case into and out of their cellar, delivery and insurance charges — are worth close study. Insurance is certainly worthwhile, in view of the bankruptcies of recent years. It need not be expensive either: Lay & Wheeler of Colchester will insure the full current replacement value of £1,000-worth of wine for just £3.53.

You should insist on an annual stock certificate, also usually offering maturity advice, again for security reasons: it should be evidence that each and every one of your cases in a wine merchant's customers' reserves is marked with your name or personal number. Newcomers to cellarage also need to know the difference between bonded and non-bonded storage. Buying and cellaring a wine under bond is a useful way of deferring duty and VAT to a later date. On a £200 case of wine today, this comes to about £47.

The great disadvantage of storing wine outside the home is that very few merchants will allow you to remove one bottle from a case to try, and most also insist on unmixed cases. More irritating still is the increasing insistence by merchants on accepting into their customers' reserves only wines sold by themselves. The storage fees charged by merchants appear high, but few make money from the business.

The best cellars to consider are those of the traditionalists. Membership of the Wine Society is definitely worthwhile, in order to make use of its £4.08 per case annual storage fee. Sadly, because of the society's keen storage price, including handling, insurance and delivery charges, 75,000 cases of its 85,000-case capacity has been filled. As a result, the society will now only convey wines bought from itself into its storage.

DENZIL McNEELANCE



Cases in point: John Heather of storage specialist Trapps

Berry Bros & Rudd charges £4.56, inclusive of insurance, to store customers' cases, twice that if the wine has not been bought from the company. Like the Wine Society, its Basingstoke cellar storage is temperature controlled, but as yet only half full. Berry's no longer charges for handling, and its credentials, backed by Cutty Sark whisky, are fine. Lay & Wheeler of Colchester charges £4.94 a case annually for storage, and has two cellars, one bonded and one not. Insurance is extra.

Wine storage specialists are also worth considering. The oldest, friendliest and best known of these is Trapps, which claims that nothing is too small for it to handle. In view of the personal service, the annual charge of £6.60 a case, plus an all-in, one-off handling fee of £2.55 a case, is good value.

If you want a large area of space, try Octavian. It is expensive, at about £5-£7.50 a case, excluding VAT, but security is good as each case is labelled and tracked by computer. Insurance is included.



OCTAVIAN has a vast 40-acre underground site, so it is unlikely to run out of room for your wine. Smith & Taylor is another smart new storage-only firm. Insurance and handling charges are extra, but the £8 a week fee for 60 cases includes placing your wines in secure, large wooden labelled boxes.

To work out just what wines you should be cellaring, keep a note of exactly what you, your family and friends drink each month (no cheating, mind) and multiply the total by 12 to get a good idea of your annual wine needs.

Next week: which wines to cellar and why, plus starting a £100, £500 and £1,000 cellar.

JANE MACQUITTY

● *The Wine Society, Gunnels Wood Road, Stevenage, Hertfordshire (0438 741177). Berry Bros & Rudd, 2 St James's Street, London SW1 (071-396 9600). Lay & Wheeler, 6 Culver Street West, Colchester, Essex (0206 764446). Trapps, 68-74 Tooley Street, London SE1 (071-407 4422). Octavian, 40 Victoria Way, Charlton, London SE7 (081-853 5551). Smith & Taylor, Chelsea Bridge Cellars, Broughton Street, London SW8 (071-627 5070).*

BEST BUYS

● **1992 Château Roustas, Côteaux Varois,** *red £5.30, white £6.40, Morris & Verdin, 28 Churton Street, London SW1*
Soft classy summer provençal pair; the red had heaps of unusually ripe, velvety carignan fruit, the elegant smoky-lemony white is made too from the lowly ugni blanc and clairette grapes.

● **1990 Meursault, Luc Javelot,** *Safeway, £5.99, down from £13.99 last year*
Attractive ripe, buttery-nutty style and a ridiculously low price.

● **1992 Domaine Petite Fontaine, Vin de Pays de L'Hérault,** *Safeway £3.49*
Delicious ripe cheap summer red.

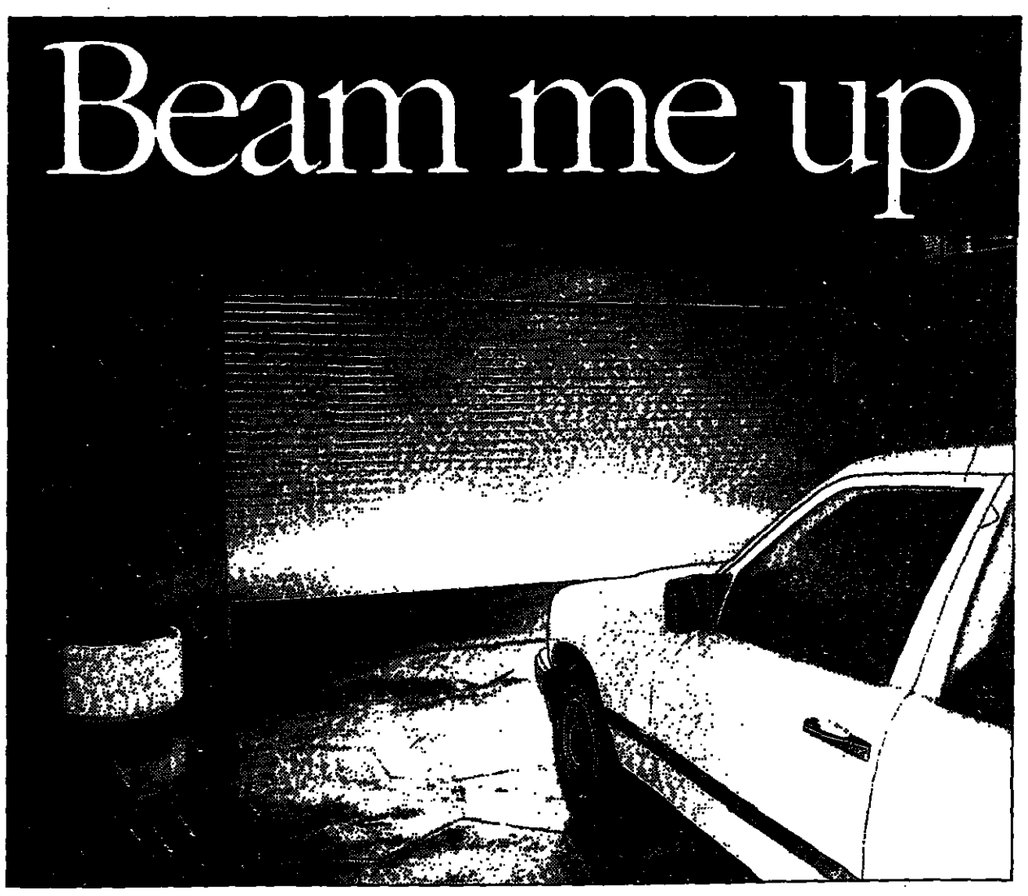
● **Ayala Champagne,** *Majestic Wine, £11.99 (from £14.99)*
Not everyone's favourite champagne flavour but a keen price for a small parcel of this musky, perfumed once fashionable fizz.

● **1990 Valpolicella Classico Pasqua,** *Sainsbury's, £3.49*
Jolly, plummy, simple Italian summer red. Serve with pasta and pizzas.

● **1992 Côtes de Duras Sauvignon,** *Safeway £2.85*
Agreeable, waxy, herbaceous sauvignon fruit and a low price from a Bordeaux satellite region.

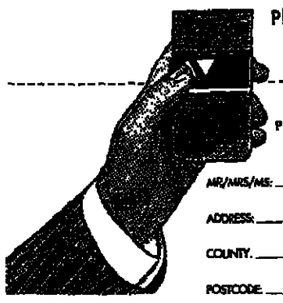
● **1990 Château du Bousquet, Côtes de Bourg,** *Sainsbury's, £5.65 from next week*
Big, chunky, inky summer claret, great with burnt barbecue food.

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The plastic wheelbarrow of destiny

Francesca Greenoak believes that gardeners are made in childhood

Childhood gardens have a way of revisiting the consciousness. Most of us have a secret garden in our past which has influenced our attitudes towards gardening in later life. My own secret place was a deserted and overgrown garden, on a Kent hillside not far from the sea, which was full of early-ripening apple trees and overgrown roses.

Accordingly, when I came to have a garden and children of my own, fruit trees figured largely. Encouraging the children to adopt a tree has turned out to be a rewarding policy: my daughter, now just into her teens, has tended her cherry tree since both she and it were small. My son is just as proprietorial about his victoria plum.

Up until now, children have not been well catered for by the gardening world, but it looks as if things are changing. Publishers and toy firms are looking towards the young gardener. Personally, I never felt much excited by dwarf wheelbarrows and baby spades and trowels in brightly coloured plastic, but I was astonished and touched by the pleasure my children had in them, particularly the barrows. Even a small child likes trundling a pint-sized load of prunings and weeds to the compost heap, and when this gets dull, they can move earth, water — even sleeping cats.

In an era dominated by computer toys, it is refreshing to find that the new generation of gardening playthings retains its essential simplicity. The new barrow from the Early Learning Centre has rather handy clip-on hand tools (garden-centre suppliers, please note) and an integral hose. There is also a nifty tray where you fit a bucket and watering can (£18.99 for the set).

Watering cans can be a source of recurrent crisis; if you want a quiet life, make sure the one you buy has a removable rose which can be easily washed clean, preferably by the children themselves.

Brio makes a fairly strong set of wooden-handled tools (rake, shovel, broom, leaf rake and an Italian-style spade, £5.95 each) for slightly older children. A child equipped with these and the matching hand trowel can be reasonably useful in the garden.

The Fisher-Price mock lawnmower is just a bit of fun — it issues a trail of bubbles as you mow.

I have been looking out for gardening books for children for years, and it must be a good sign to find two very good ones appearing almost simultaneously. Many a parent will be dipping into the colourful *Muck and Magic* by Jo Readman, which is packed with pictures and information to make a really lively introduction to gardening. Published by Search Press, it is available from bookshops, but if you order direct from the publishers you get a pack which includes a packet each of Suttons nasturtiums, cress, courgette and sunflower seeds for an extra £1.

Growing from seed, cuttings, ecological cycles, garden insects and birds are also covered in the hardback *Let's Go Gardening*, which has more reading to it. The book is well worth looking at despite a few mishaps in the translation from the original German.

Encouraging children to garden, especially if your space is limited, means paying attention to their personal taste — even when it does not concur with your own. It may widen your own tastes. As I look out on to the garden now, I can enjoy several child-instigated enterprises: groups of yellow and orange tulips, a sink garden of sempervivums and storksbills, and the first delicious spears on a small asparagus bed.

● Muck and Magic *by Jo Readman (Search Press, £4.95 from bookshops; £5.95 with four seed packets from the publishers at Wellwood, North Farm Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TV2 3DR, 0892 510850).* Let's Go Gardening *by Ursula Kruger (Lutterworth Press, £9.95). Toys from good toyshops and Early Learning Centres.*

FRANCESCA GREENOAK



Growing pains: Howarth, 11, and Elizabeth, three, develop green fingers attending to their plot



Gardens to visit

● **Wiltshire:** *East Knoyle (between Warminster and Blandford Forum)*
Eight village gardens, some on chalk: Knoyle Place with eight acres of rhododendrons. Plants for sale. Park and walk tomorrow 2-6pm. £2, child free.

● **Cambridgeshire:** *Pampisford gardens (eight miles south of Cambridge on A505, seven miles north of Saffron Walden)*
Four gardens, including The Old Vicarage and Dower House and pensioners' prize-winning gardens. Plants for sale. Tomorrow 2-5.30pm. £1.50, child free.

● **Tayside:** *Glendoick, Glencarse by Perth (14 miles from Dundee on A85)*
A superb collection of rhododendrons with fine shrubs and trees, in the grounds of an 18th-century mansion. Tomorrow 2-5pm. £1.50, young children free.

● **Powys:** *Trawscoed Hall (three miles north of Welshpool on Llanfyllin road)*
South-facing hilly garden with interesting plants, including fine wisteria draping Georgian house. Plant sales. Tomorrow 2-6pm. £1, child free.

WEEKEND TIPS

● *Plant forsythias, flowering currants,* Cornus mas *and other spring-flowering shrubs.*

● *Don't allow seedlings to burn in bright sun; move them out of the direct glare.*

● *Pick off early caterpillars by hand; if you miss the boat and they increase worryingly, spray with* Bacillus thuringiensis *(Bactospeine or BT4000).*

● *Protect strawberries with straw or matting between the plants and have netting ready to keep off the birds.*

● *Cut back pulmonarias after the flowering is over, to encourage fresh foliage.*

MY PERFECT WEEKEND

CHRISTINA DODWELL

Explorer



Where would you go?
Kamchatka, the peninsula in the former USSR beyond Siberia. I was there a year ago on my last expedition. With the opening up of the Soviet Union, people are paying a lot of attention to Siberia and the Ukraine, but Kamchatka is a forgotten place.

How would you get there?
Instantly, by re-materialising there. The ideal weekend would exclude travel time: it is a ten-hour flight from Moscow and you have to take your own food and water.

Where would you stay
Camped in a deerskin tent by a frozen river in the tundra.

To whom would you send a postcard?
Where postmen drive sleds, a card takes months. I'd send one to friends in a tropical climate.

What essential piece of clothing or kit would you take?
Thermal underwear. The local reindeer-skin clothes are ideal for the climate. Russians say "there's no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothes".

What medicines would accompany you?
Tiger Balm, an oriental cure-all.

What would you have to eat?
Summer is so short that vegetables can hardly grow, but you can catch fresh fish, even in winter, by drilling through the river ice. In some parts there is an abundance of venison and salmon — in spring the bears catch 20 to 30 salmon a day.

What would you have to drink?
There's little choice. Water is stored as ice blocks cut from the river and stacked outside the tent. There's vodka and home-distilled spirit, strong enough to drive rockets to Mars.

Which books would you take to read?
None, I like listening to people and looking at the sort of things they are reading.

What luxury would you take?
Coffee and fresh milk.

What three things would you leave behind?
My husband and dogs — anything that thinks it's dependent on me.

Would you play any games or sport?
I would drive my own reindeer in a sled race and join the deer herders in a game of "lasso the swinging antler".

What piece of art would you like to have there?
I'd like to visit local collections of wooden totems believed to look after people and reindeer.

What music would you listen to?
Local Chukchi and Koryak music is superb for melodious songs.

Who would be your least welcome guest?
Anyone is welcome if they arrive on foot or by sled.

Which newspapers or journals would you read?
I may glance at local papers but they're always long out of date.

What three things would you most like to do?
1. Ski down a volcano, traversing round small craters. 2. I'd bathe in a hot spring provided by the volcanic heat. 3. Watch how ice melts in May, making filigree patterns on the streams.

Who would be your perfect companion?
No one. I prefer to be alone. A solo traveller is easily accepted into remote communities and becomes part of life, not a visitor.

What souvenir would you bring home?
Some cast-off deer horns to hang my hat on.

What would you like to find when you got home?
Healthy loved ones, and green fields with fat, grazing animals.

Interview by Rosanna Greenstreet

● Beyond Siberia, *by Christina Dodwell, is published by Hodder and Stoughton on May 20, price £14.99.*

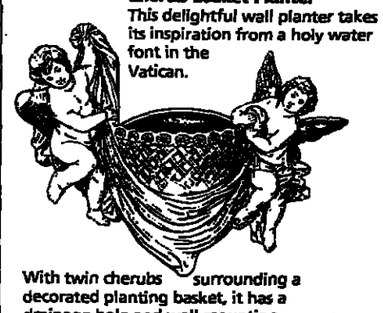
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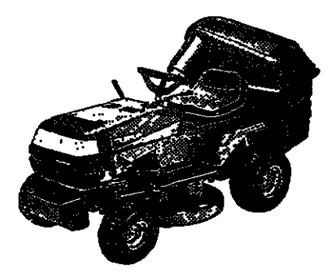
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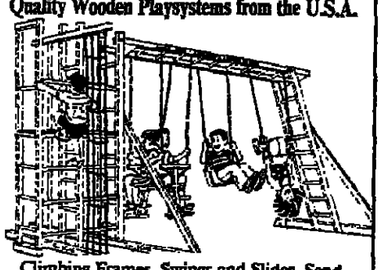
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Warmed by a spiritual glow

Ruth Gledhill escapes inner city life for some quiet meditation



AS I entered the London Buddhist Centre through an eastern-looking courtyard full of flowers and plants, after an extremely stressful journey through London's rush-hour traffic, the sudden oasis of calm near some of the city's busiest roads seemed the answer to my prayers. Walking through the entrance was like strolling through the door of the wardrobe into a C.S. Lewis land of make-believe. Inside, walls were painted in the style of idyllic mountainous countryside, evoking peace and purity.

The London Buddhist Centre opened in 1978, after three years spent restoring the derelict, partially burnt out old fire station three miles from the centre of London. The community was called *Sukhavati*, meaning the happy land.

First-timers should wear trousers or leggings, and clean socks. We removed our shoes and put them in a cloakroom. My short skirt was distinctly unsuitable for sitting cross-legged on the cushions provided. Vishvapani, my host, wore a *kesa*, a white scarf embroidered with the three jewels of Buddhism: the Buddha, the *dharma* (the teaching), and the *sangha* — the spiritual community of Buddhists. His card gives him the title Dharmachari, which means follower of the truth and is the nearest thing to Reverend in Buddhism. All members of the Western Buddhist order have the same ordination, although women are called Dharmacharini. At ordination, all Buddhists take a new name. Vishvapani means: "He who has everything in his grasp."

Most people at the meditation were looking for a new way to cope with the strains of secular life amid the impossible pressures of an inner city. The sense of escape into a haven of meditation was instant, an unexpected find among the detritus of urban decay in the east end of London. The traffic rumbling into and beyond the city of London on the Roman Road in Bethnal Green was inaudible through the triple-glazed windows. Even the wooden floor was insulated. The only irritating noise was the cracking of bent knees and ankle joints.

Meditation can produce an impressive adrenalin rush equal to that of running a marathon, but with a fraction of the effort. It quells the appetite and evokes inner peace of a high order. It provides few answers, but subdues some of the questions. In his latest book, *Universal Compassion* (Tharpa Publications), the Tibetan Buddhist Geshe Kelsang Gyatso says every human being has the same basic wish — to be happy. Buddhists teach that the path to enlightenment is achieved through learning to control the mind, that peace and cessation of suffering is achieved by consciously abandoning non-virtuous actions. It sounds nice in theory, but the practice is somewhat harder. The mind can be ingenious in avoiding self-discipline. My first response to a mere 25 minutes was to fall asleep. Others said they could not stop their mind wandering.

Ours was an introductory class, led by Vimalachitta, whose name means "pure or stainless heart or mind". At least 50 newcomers were there, almost filling the small shrine room dominated by a statue of a remarkably slim, young, golden Buddha, eight feet tall. We sat facing the Buddha on round green cushions and floor mats, cross legged or kneeling. Most of us were in our thirties. Few of the women wore make-up. Many looked tired, unhappy and uncertain, while by contrast our teacher positively glowed with serenity, happiness and joy. Her spirited introduction to meditation lifted the gloom, and the despair was replaced gradually by hope as we followed her instructions for *mettabhavana*, a type of meditation based on "affirmation of life", or a development of loving kindness. The aim was not to be subject to the whim of emotions as they come and go. She led us through a five-stage meditation. It seemed to work. By the end, the depression in the room had lifted. People chatted freely over tea and biscuits in the break. Spiritual warmth had replaced the cold. Vishvapani and Vimalachitta explained why it made sense to believe in reincarnation. There were no charges. People are invited to give what they can in terms of energy, enthusiasm, skills or money. In return, the centre offers freely what it has to the public.

After our break Dhammarati, chairman of the London Buddhist Centre and a former psychiatric nurse, delivered a long lecture on Buddhism and meditation in a strong Glaswegian accent. "Buddha means awake. The path is gradual. We do not move straight to enlightenment. We become awake by degrees, by becoming gradually more aware of ourselves and gradually more aware of the world around us. Some religions teach that it is a miracle to walk on water. Buddhism teaches that it is a miracle to walk on the ground, and to know that you are walking on the ground."

● *Introduction to meditation: Wednesdays 7.15-9.30pm. On Mondays at the Covent Garden Meditation Centre, or Tuesdays at the North London Buddhist Centre and the South London Buddhist Group.*

ALAN WELLER



Spiritual escape: members of the London Buddhist Centre treading the winding path to gradual enlightenment and peace of mind

The London Buddhist Centre, 51 Roman Road, London E2 OHU (081-981 1225).

CHAIRMAN: Dharmachari Dhammarati.

LECTURE: Quick and amusing run through the life of the Buddha and the experience of meditation by the centre's chairman, Dhammarati.★★★★

ARCHITECTURE: Former fire station built in 1889 in red brick with white stone dressings and high gabled roof. Impressively adapted and maintained for Buddhist meditation.★★★★

LITURGY: No liturgy exists for meditation classes. Texts from different Buddhist traditions are used by those who go on from meditation classes to devotional ceremonies.

MUSIC: Non-existent.

SPIRITUAL HIGH: Meditation is a useful art and an invaluable aid to peace of mind, but more intense elevation is difficult with no element of prayer.★★★

AFTER-SERVICE CARE: Indian or herb tea and biscuits provided in between meditation class and lecture, but nothing at the end. Friendly attitude from organisers, with invitations but no pressure to attend numerous future events.★★

Bound to get a good beating

Susan MacDonald finds the traditions of Rogation Sunday being revitalised

Tomorrow is Rogation Sunday, one of those ancient church days when pagan rites were adapted to Christian ceremonies. In Rome the clergy led the people in chanting prayers for their salvation from such diverse catastrophes as earthquakes, ravaging wolves and red mildew on their crops. In Anglo-Saxon England, Rogation days were originally known as "walking days", and incorporated the custom of "beating the bounds", to mark out the parish boundaries.

Although the tradition has continued in a few places, in most it fell into abeyance. So, three years ago, the Open Spaces Society decided to revive the custom so that local people would know their common land boundaries better. This year, 80 communities all over England and Wales are organising such walkabouts for those who care about commons and parish boundaries, or who would like a Sunday walk with a difference.

In many areas the vicar, mayor and council will lead the way. There will be picnics by the river or a drink in the pub afterwards. The ancient tradition of "beating" the boundaries with willow sticks is still on, but the custom of bumping choirboys' posteriors on the boundary stones for greater effect seems to have been dropped.

However, not all is lost: in Godalming, Surrey, the vicar will "beat" a choirgirl (in fact a gentle bumping at the corners of a piece of common land).

At Knowsley in Merseyside, Eric the blackbird, the mascot of Knowsley Rangers, will lead the way round the boundaries of Bowring Park, with sideshows and clog-dancing. At other places, such as Silchester in Hampshire, quaintness is preferred, with the racing of Pooh sticks under Tamworth Bridge on the way round its boundaries. Essex has ten events including an Epping Forest walk, beating the ancient boundaries of Waltham Abbey, Sewardstone Manor and Loughton village.

Karin Groeneveld at the Open Spaces Society says that commons everywhere are under threat from encroachment. At Leamington Spa, in fact, people are invited to bring a picnic to Victoria Park to celebrate the saving of it.

ON THE BEATEN TRACK

● **Hampshire:** *Mortimer West End. Contact Mrs J. M. Nickless (0734 700428)*
Meeting: 2pm at St Mary's Church, Silchester. Walk: part of village boundary, Pooh sticks at Tamworth Bridge, picnic.

● **East Sussex:** *Fletching. Contact Denis Kenward (0825 722030)*
Meeting: 3.15pm at Fletching Church. Walk: from church towards boundary, blessing of the waters crossing the tributary to the Ouse.

● **Hertfordshire:** *Colney Heath. Contact Caroline Pluck (0727 825314)*
Meeting: 2pm Warren Road track. Walk: Colney Heath common, with tea in barn afterwards.

● **Surrey:** *Godalming. Contact Mrs P. A. Evans (0483 869575)*
Meeting: 3.30pm at Phillips Memorial, The Burys. Walk: bounds of Godalming, plus choirgirl being "beaten" and a picnic by the river.

● **Lancashire:** *Reedley Hallows. Contact Alan Binns (0282 435509)*
Meeting: 2pm at the Prairie Field, Reedley. Walk: part of parish bounds around a valley a farmer tried to sell as a landfill site. A community campaign has stopped this for the present.

● **Merseyside:** *Knowsley. Contact Christine Hitchen (051-443 3682)*
Meeting: 3.30pm at Bowring Park gates. Walk: Bowring Park and annual country heritage fair.

● **Essex:** *Epping Forest. Contact Eilish Rothney (081-508 9061)*
Meeting: 2.30pm at Epping Forest Centre. Walk: old boundaries of Waltham Abbey, Sewardstone Manor and Loughton.

● **Warwickshire:** *Leamington Spa. Contact Janet Storrie (0926 316508)*
Meeting: noon, Victoria Park. Archery Road entrance. Walk: Victoria Park to celebrate its saving. Bring a picnic.

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LADY 42 slim attractive loving needs sensitive intelligent man 42-65 to share life with wide interests apart arts music travel food. Photo please. London area. Reply to Box No 2279

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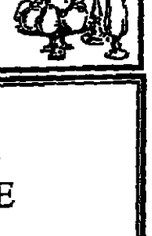
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SUCCESSFUL German, 32 years tall, sporty, attr. single, outg., positive, enj. sport & travel and loves England, seeks tall slim, n/s girl/lady to build up relationship. Photo please. Reply to Box No 2206

TALL American psychologist, happy in Highgate, seeks n/s lady, 47+ for music, travel. Photo helpful. Box No 2234

GENTLEMEN

PROFESSIONAL Man, 54, tall, fit, intelligent, many interests, Jewish atheist, sensitive, seeks compatible woman of childbearing age Box No 2199

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GENTLEMEN

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Tel: (081) 659 9356
Detached family house with swimming pool
Well planned / maintained accomodation 4 beds 1½ bathrooms in excellent decorative order with 130 ft garden half paved as swimming pool surround.

BILLERICAY, ESSEX
TEL: 0268 544644
FAX: 0268 417773
£155,000
Fairies at the bottom of my garden? No!, Just the source of the River Crouch. There are a number of mature poplar trees in the 200ft south facing rear garden. Four/five bedrooms, two bathrooms, shower/WC to Master, An ideal spacious family home.

STOW-ON-THE-WOLD
Gloucestershire.
Tel (0451) 830320.
£85,000.
A delightful, 18th century Cotswold cottage, modernised yet retaining its character. Stripped pine internal doors, exposed beams downstairs. Lounge with stone fireplace, dining room, spacious pine fitted kitchen and bathroom. 3 bedrooms and shower room. Gas C.H. Pretty, secluded, walled garden.

ESSEX / SUFFOLK BORDER
Detached house. Master bedroom + en-suite shower, bath, 3 double bedrooms, 3 receptions, large kitchen, study, utility, sun lounge, double garage.
£170,000
Telephone: 0284 828025 (home) 0708 476361 (office).

Peaceful rural beauty. An exquisitly restored stone built spacious residence in extensive grounds East of Bordeaux within easy reach of several market towns. Guest suite for six. Large secluded pool. International golf course nearby.
£160,000 ono
Tel (France)
010-33-53-94-76-39

BARGAIN BARNS
Langtree North Devon
Tel: (05983) 339 £99,950
P.P. for 4 large houses in 2 acres glorious countryside. £16,000 works already completed. All quotes available. Ideal for home and income. Could be split.

CROCKERTON
Warminster Wilts
50m Border
Tel: 0985-218240.
£148,500.
200 year old tastefully extended individual dream home. 20 plus happy years. Birdsflown. Superb location in green belt, adjacent Longleat, Woods, lake, rural pursuits incl. sailing. South facing interesting landscaped garden. 6 Bed farm house, kitchen, original features, beams, Ingle-nook. Immaculately maintained.

RIVERSIDE RUNNYMEDE
Exquisite Tudor style character detached residence set in secluded grounds of about 0.4 acre with 60 ft Thames frontage. Very spacious; delightful views; detached annexe. 5 mins from M25. Reduced price: £319,950
Must be seen.
Tel: 0784 432 509.

ROCKCLIFFE– KIRKCUDBRIGHTSHIRE
Tel:(055663) 345 £170,000
This attractive elevated architect designed detached house has magnificent views overlooking the Solway Firth and River Urr Estuary. Oil CH. Large sitting room and entrance hall, dining room, kitchen aga, conservatory, cloaks, pantry, utility room. 3 Beds, 2 garages, secluded gardens.

ROEDEAN
Overlooking Brighton Marina, detached Villa - Style property, six beds, five baths, fully fitted kitchen, marble floors, built in vacuum system, sauna, study, heated swimming pool, easily maintained. Colour brochure on request.
£595,000 Freehold.
Telephone: 0273 679743.

SALTFORD, AVON
DETACHED FAMILY HOME
£120,000
3 Marinas and Golf course nearby in village close Bath / Bristol. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 receptions, study (shower en-suite) co-ordinated kitchen, conservatory, GCH, double garage, patio, pond, low maintenance garden.
(0225) 873 841

HAMMERSMITH, W6.
Tel: 081 741 4454.
£185,000.
Charming 3 bedroomed Victorian house in quiet Cul-De-Sac. 30' X 12' reception room, 23' X 10' kitchen/dining room - overlooking 40' south facing paved garden with flourishing raised flower beds. Large attic and cellar.

SHORWELL
Nr newport, Isle of Wight Ideally suited for single person, family or holiday home needing warmth and security of 3 attractive houses close by but in heart of countryside. Secluded garden, 4 good sized bedrooms, modern kitchen, sunny sitting room. Breathtaking views over sheep downs.
£149,000
Tel: (0983) 551206

SHROPSHIRE, HEREFORD BORDER
Lenthall Starkes
6 miles West of historic Ludlow, 17th Century ½-timbered detached, 3 bedroomed country cottage with open beams. Sun lounge, log fires, central heating, spacious. Large South-facing garden with sheltered outdoor eating area onto open countryside on edge of Mortimer Deer Forest
£136,000
Tel: 0568 86404

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE
Near Huntingdon & Cambridge
Tel: 071-240 1690 (office hours)
Cost: £149,000
Detached thatched cottage, rural setting: two double bedrooms, large reception room; kitchen, bathroom - inglenook fireplace, exposed beams; detached barn, converted as garage, with seperate living unit or office with kitchen, shower and loo - ideal for working from home.

SOUTH HEREFORDSHIRE
Detached timbered converted barn in secure private courtyard setting. 1 Single, 2 Double beds (1 en-suite shower), bath, 2 recep, kitchen, diner, cloakroom, utility room. Garage, garden and parking. Situated 12 miles west of Hereford.
£95,000
Telephone: 0981 240935.

STANAGE
Nr. Bucknell, S. Shropshire.
Tel (0239) 841650
£145,000.
Secluded yet convenient rambling 4/5 bedroom house spectacularly situated in the magnificent border country. 30 miles Shrewsbury, 25 miles Hereford. 2 conservatories. Wildlife. Pond set in approx 1¼ acre garden. Barn made into double garage, workshops. Very good order throughout.

Southfields S.W.18
A Lovely well maintained semi-detached Edwardian house with garage. Two large double bedrooms, single bedroom, two reception rooms. Re-wired re-plumbed, cgh. Beautiful sunny 30' garden. Quiet road nr. tube. Low council tax.
£130,000. Tel: 081-870 6931 or 071-404 8880 (office).

BINDERTON
North of Chichester
(0243 - 528172) £135,000.
Immaculate apartment in gracious Grade II Country House to suit fastidious person wanting the best of all worlds - A charming home in lovely Downland surroundings. Sitting / Dining room, kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bathroom, Oil Htg, garage.

COTSWOLDS
Moreton-in-Marsh 1 mile, Paddington 75 mins, 19th C Farmhouse with 6½ acres in unspoilt Hamlet. Area of outstanding natural beauty. 35ft drawing rm, 18ft dining rm, study. 20ft kit/break, 4 beds, 2 baths, cloak/shower rm, oil CH, dbl garage. Paddock & 4 loose boxes. OIRO £295,000. Tel 0608 50494

BLACKHEATH SE3
Tel: 081 852 4073
£495,000
With brilliant views over the heath towards the church and village, quiet private road, period detached house, 6 bedrooms, seperate flat opening into spacious secluded garden, you can forget you are 20 minutes from city, Strand, Victoria.

SEAFRONT APARTMENT
Overlooking Plymouth Harbour Entrance.
In a unique developement with private harbour and beach, superb two bedroom apartment; picture windows overlooking naval activity of Plymouth sound; beautiful gardens, pool, tennis courts, garage, coastal walks.
£94,950
Tel: 0934 852634.

STANDISH
Nr Preston, Lancashire.
0257 426581. £170,000.
Our individually designed and spacious home lies in an attractive area and is convenient to M6 & M61. Situated on a large plot within a small prestigious estate it has 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, morning room, study and a secluded garden.

STOKE FERRY
Norfolk, *Midway Norwich, Cambridge, and Peterborough*
Tel: 0366 500134
£165,000
Unique, historic property. Windmill and adjoining millhouse beautifully restored with host of visible mill machinery. Very spacious property with 5 bedrooms, four reception rooms set in 1½ acres of quiet countryside. Ideal for B&B or easy conversion into two dwellings.

UNSPOILT SLAD VALLEY
(2 miles Stroud)
Superb setting, part of 300 year old converted mill, 4 bedroom house plus 'granny' flat. 24 ft drawing room. Beams, wood burning stoves. Front and back garden. 95 minutes London.
Offers based on £200,000.
Tel: 0452 813 982

AYLSHAM, NORFOLK
Tel: (0603) 612211.
OIRO £220,000.
Late Georgian town house in attractive market town. Light well proportioned rooms with original features. Secluded half acre mature garden with fruit trees. Huge cellar. 5 beds, 4 receps, 2 bath, attic bed 6/ office.

BARDWELL
NR. BURY ST EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK
Tel: (0359) 50336
Centrally located this 16thC Grade II thatched timber-framed farmhouse has grounds of 1 acre, large flint/ brick barn and outbuildings offering scope for conversion. The extensively renovated house comprises 3/4 bedrooms, 2/4 receptions and a large fully-fitted kitchen.

3 SUNNYSIDE
Scottish Borders, Berwickshire.
End cottage in row - Recently modernised. 2 bedrooms, garage & kennel. Superb views and countryside. Edinburgh 30 miles, Berick upon Tweed 20.
Offers over £36,000.
Please Reply to Box No 2212

Superbly located flat in Chalk Farm NW3, 2 mins tube, long lease 114 years, 2 bedrms, all spacious rooms, double aspect reception, newly refurbished, communal gardens, porterage.
£85,000.
Tel 071 483 1162

SURREY
Unique Edwardian home, stands in 1¾ acre garden on Epsom Downs. Large oak panelled hall way. 6 beds, 2 receptions, 2 baths. Self-contained 1 bed granny/staff annex. Stabling conversion includes e/w facing studio. Close to schools, BR, M25, airports & London.
£495,000.
Tel (0372) 741 543.

HAMPSTEAD GARDEN.
Off Winnington Road detached house, 5 beds, 4 rec, 3 bath, garage with carriage drive. Lge gdn. Fh. £499,000.
Tel 081 209 0246.

THE LAKE DISTRICT
Ullswater
Superb Lakeland Country House of Character, with 5 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Set in approximately 3 acres of garden and natural grounds.
£495,000
For further details: Telephone; (07684) 82504.

THE OLD COTTAGE
Bickley, Kent
Tel: 081 467 6785.
£300,000.
Grade II listed country house in urban Bromley. Exposed beams and Inglenook fire places. Family house with 4 receptions, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and 2 kitchens. Easily divides into flat for grandparents or seperate let. Well placed for London or Country.

VAUXHALL SW8
Grade II listed Regency Ballroom, now a magnificent family home. 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms (2 en-suite) Mark Wilkinson dining kitchen, drawing room, dining room. Secure site, caretaker, communal gardens, indoor swimming pool and gymnasium.
£495,000
TEL: 071 735 0505 eves
071 581 2470 day

WALDRON, HEATHFIELD, EAST SUSSEX
Backing on to woodland, quiet lane. 1+ acre of ground. Detached, 3 bedrooms, cloakrooms, utility, lounge/dining, bathroom, study, double garage, single garage/workshop, oil central heating, gas connected, permission and plans for extension.
£150,000
Tel: (0435) 863139

EMSWORTH
Hants/Sussex border. Chichester Harbour 130 yards.
£265,000.
Tel: (0243) 372338.
Comfortable, warm, carefully modernised house of character. 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, sitting, dining, study, kitchen, utility/ workshop, garage. Scope for extension. 0.3 acre mature private garden ideal for children.

WALES. AMMANFORD, DYFED
Tel: 0269 822180.
Reduced to £79,990. Executive Dormer house, set in 1/5 acre matured ground, mountain views, nr M4 & Brecon Beacons National Park. Lge lounge, dining rm & breakfast rm, 3 bedrooms up - 1 with ensuite, 1 bedroom / study down. Sale includes carpets, curtains, light fittings & all integrated kitchen appliances.

WANDSWORTH SW12
Tel: 081 672 6934.
£159,500.
Spacious Victorian end of terrace house. two receptions, 3 double bedrooms, two bathrooms, large kitchen, plus utility room, cellar and loft. Detached garage, west facing garden, situated in quiet tree lined road just south of Wandsworth Common.

WEST KENSINGTON W14
Very spacious & Bright end terrace with double glazing, CH, 2 double bedrooms. 2nd floor flat in good decorative order. Original marble fireplace with copper hood. lots of storage space including Victorian stripped pine cupboards. Very close District, Piccadilly tubes and A4. Friendly safe area.
£99,950. Share of Freehold.
071 381 2284
(All day answer phone).

WEYMOUTH, PRESTON, DORSET
TEL 0305 832027
£175,000
Our focal point to our family home is an elevated position, south facing with panoramic sea views across Weymouth Bay. Reception hall, dining area and lounge. Quality fitted kitchen, utility room. 5 beds, 3 bathroom & study. Gardens, garden room & upstairs balcony. 4 yrs old.

WOOLACOMBE North Devon
Tel: 0452 714755
£159,000
Substantial & individual 3/4 bed family home overlooking one of Europe's finest beaches. Magnificent country. coastal views have to be seen to be appreciated. Clean air. ½ acre garden, suit family with housebound person

WYRE FOREST
Worcs/Salop border
Tel: 0332 880740
or 0594 542387
£23,500
This holiday chalet with all mod cons is in a peaceful woodland clearing, five miles west of historic Bewdley. The furnished, two-bedroom home will sleep six, and the secluded site has been thoughtfully developed to include its own fishing lake.

EALING
Backing Park
Panoramic views. Modern block, gardens, lift, porter, garage. 3 double bedrooms, lounge dining room, balcony, excellent kitchen, marble shower room, cloaks. Double glazed, centrally heated. Beautifully maintained. 97 years lease. Realistic price:
£151,000.

WORCESTERSHIRE
Quiet village location, 10 miles M5, freehold detached residence, 2 years old, dbl grge, utility, fully fitted kitchen, dining room, spacious lounge, study and hallway, 5 bedrooms, 2 baths (1 ensuite), lge landing, gas and electric cooking and CH, Established lawned garden. Price based on £260,000. Further details

SOUTH WILTS
1760 chapel efficiently modernised to give excellent family house. 5 beds. 2 baths. Large rooms, oil CH, walled garden. garage. Large Village, many shops, mainline Waterloo.
£165,000

GERRARDS CROSS – BUCKS
OIRO £235,000
Telephone: (0753) 882890
Immaculately maintained detached family home. Three reception rooms, master bedroom suite, four further bedrooms, luxury fitted kitchen, utility, secluded garden. Facing open green belt countryside yet just minutes from main-line and

HEAVER ESTATE LONDON SW17
Tel: 081 673 8281 £365,000
Victorian, double fronted family home overlooking Tooting Bec Common. Full of period features and character, it offers 3 reception rooms, kitchen/conservatory, utility room, 5 double bedrooms (2 en-suite), a self contained 2 roomed

ELSTON
nr Newark, Notts
Occupying part of historic Elston Hall (once owned by Darwinb family) standing in private grounds in village. Hall and cloakroom, large lounge with high ceilings, dining-room and bar, fitted kitchen, 3 beds, 1 co-suite, family bathroom, GFCH.

CASTLE
Top Floor New Apartments.
Breathtaking views.
West Sussex Hill top setting
Idyllic retreat
Offers over £215,000
Private Sale

BROADSTAIRS, KENT
TEL: 0843 866073
£144,900
This rambling single-storey 3 bed, 2 rec, 2 bath seaside home with sea-views in quietly located close to beach, park and clifftop walks. Its main features include secluded heated swimming pool,

BRANT BROUGHTON
Lincolnshire
Offers around £275,000
Tel: 0400 72293
Beautifully and sympathetically restored grade 2 listed Georgian farm house, set in ½ acre with open farm land views. 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, superb 45 ft long conservatory. A

Buckinghamshire
LANE END
2 Bed listed flint brick cottage. Extensive additions, modern fitted kitchen, washroom, shower, toilet. Seperate larger study or additional bedroom.
£140,000

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Island castaways in comfort

A perfect climate, welcoming people and economic stability are encouraging a revival of interest in Caribbean homes

The Caribbean islands have long been popular with British buyers in search of a home on a tropical island. Although prices have remained static in recent years, high levels of tourism on many islands have revived interest in the property market, creating greater activity and causing values to rise. *Cheryl Taylor writes*

With direct flights to Barbados and Antigua, investment in leisure property is well advanced. However, the surge in Caribbean home ownership by Britons has diminished since the UK economy went into recession.

Prices and facilities vary from island to island. The seriously rich go to Barbados, the most sophisticated of the Caribbean islands — and the most expensive. The perfect climate and welcoming people are obvious attractions of this 166sq mile coral island, swathed in sugar cane and blessed with some of the Caribbean's finest white, sandy beaches. But what sustains the interest of investors is its economic and political stability.

The island has just celebrated its twenty-seventh year of independence, and yet retains its British atmosphere. It is a well ordered, highly civilised place, reeking of old money, with a colony of expatriates. There has been no property boom here. The market is relatively stable, although prices are rising as building land becomes scarce.

Individual villas and historic plantation houses are for sale all over the island, but one of the more popular new developments is at Glitter Bay. Although it is still possible to find a one-bedroom apartment here for under £100,000, most homes cost a great deal more.

The smartest address can cost more than £1 million at Sandy Bay and St James on the east coast, scattered with millionaires' homes, manicured golf courses and expensive hotels.

For more modest tastes, three bedroom semi-detached villas, with wooden balconies and covered terraces, overlooking the beach at Gibbs Bay, cost about £285,000. Prices slip away from the coast. You can buy an old plantation house 30 minutes inland in need of modernisation, with six bedrooms and three reception rooms, surrounded by manicured lawns and swaying sugar cane, from around £170,000.

There are no restrictions on foreigners buying property, nor any capital gains tax to pay when you sell your Barbadian home. However, unlike similar islands, Barbados is no tax haven. Tax on income is levied, and a property transfer tax of 10 per cent of the purchase price is incurred on buying and 8 per cent on selling, plus stamp duty and lawyer's fees.

Antigua and Montserrat are part of the Leewards chain of islands, Antigua being the larger and more populated of the two. Antigua has a dry climate, with a more arid landscape, scattered with historic forts and anchorages. The island also has its share of high-rise concrete and crowded beaches, with more than 100,000 tourists visiting each year. On Montserrat you will find lush tropical vegetation, tree-clad mountains and relative tranquillity. Over the past decade Antigua has been at the hub of the Caribbean building boom. Today, beach-front land is hard to find, and the dwindling supply of rustic plots is much sought after, and expensive.

Northwest of the island, at Dickensons Bay, close to the capital of St John's, a small scheme of two and three bedroom cottages has been built on a one-acre hillside site, overlooking a white, sandy beach. Each house is two-storeyed, with a kitchen and bathroom on both floors, and all have patios or balconies, solar water heating and air conditioning. Prices range from £135,000 to £200,000, including a complete furnishing package to rental standard.

London-based agent Osbornes says the potential for renting is good because the developers have negotiated terms with tour operators. There is no income tax or capital gains tax to pay. Allow about 5 per cent of the purchase price to cover stamp duty and legal fees.

A 15-minute hop by small plane from Antigua, with its direct flights to London, is the tiny British colony of Montserrat. Palm-fringed bays and blue sea surround this peaceful laid-back island, which has almost completely recovered from Hurricane Hugo's devastation four years ago. It remains unspoilt by the over-development that has scarred so many Caribbean resorts.

Montserrat, with its population of 12,000, has a large expatriate community, including many Irish emigrants from other Caribbean islands.

Newcomers are welcomed; there is hardly any crime on the island, the pace of life is relaxed and people are friendly and hospitable. Perfect strangers smile and say: "Hello, how are you?" and "Have a nice day." A new development of 25 large, luxury houses and 26 cottages, designed by British architects Renton Welch Partnership, is being built on a 27-acre hillside site, overlooking a golf course and the beach, at Isles Bay, a short drive from the island's capital, Plymouth.

Five of the homes have been built and sold so far. In the style of colonial plantation houses, they have cool verandahs and lattice-work to let the breeze waft through the high-ceilinged rooms. Each house is set in half an acre of tropical gardens, and each has its own giant pool and the option of a guest suite which can be built at garden level.

The plantation houses range in size from three to five bedrooms, and in price from about £280,000 to £475,000. The smaller, two-bedroom cottages, with communal pool and landscaped gardens, start at around £180,000.

Rental income from a luxury three-bedroom home at Isles Bay can be around £26,000 annually — untouched by the Montserrat taxman for the first 15 years. A management team oversees maintenance and lettings.

Buying costs (including stamp duty, land-holding licence, transfer tax and legal fees) amount to around 8 per cent of the purchase price. There is, also, an annual property tax, based on a sliding scale, but there is no capital gains tax to pay when you sell.

A less expensive option would be to buy land and start building. All the Caribbean islands require alien land-holders' licences, costing from around 2.25 per cent (on Montserrat) to 5 per cent of the purchase price. Many of the building plots have no mains water or electricity, so it is important to check that these services can be connected, and installation costs should also be checked. Compare land and building costs locally, ask for a fixed price contract — and a date of delivery. Do not pay up front for an uncompleted property, always insist on staged payments, and be prepared to oversee the building work yourself.

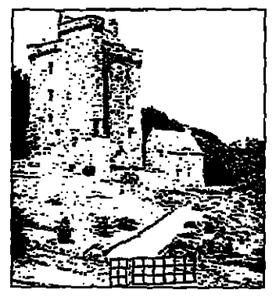
● *Isles Bay Plantation, 12 Stucley Place, London NW1 8NS (071-482 1413) or agents Cluttons, 45 Berkeley Square, London W1 (071-408 1010); Alleyne, Aguilar & Altman, Rose Bank Derricks, St James, Barbados (0101 809 432 0840); Simon Malster, Osbornes, 93 Parkway, London NW1 7PP (071-485 8811).*



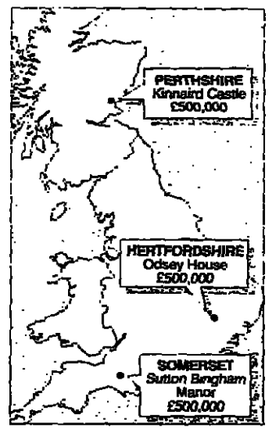
Halcyon days: cool verandahs of Isles Bay houses in Montserrat, overlooking sun, sea and sand

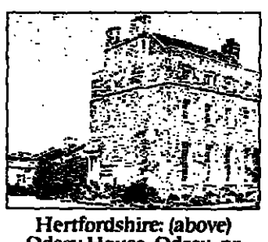
Enjoy your own prison, library or artist's studio in **Cheryl Taylor's** selection this week

FOR SALE around £500,000



Scotland: (left) Kinnaird Castle, Kinnaird, Perthshire. Grade A listed 12th-century fortalice (small fort) in ten acres, overlooking the Tay Estuary. Four bedrooms, two bathrooms, king's room, study, kitchen/dining room and prison (with 3ft thick walls). Self-contained two-bedroom cottage. Garage, greenhouses. About £500,000 (Knight, Frank & Rutley, 031-225 7105).





Hertfordshire: (above) Odsey House, Odsey, nr Baldock. Historic Grade I listed 18th-century house in three acres. Six bedrooms, three bathrooms, shower-room, two reception rooms, library, study. Staff flat. About £500,000 (Redmayne, Arnold and Harris, 0223 323130).



Somerset: Sutton Bingham Manor, nr Yeovil. Grade II listed manor house in 3½ acres of gardens and paddock, in a secluded position overlooking the Sutton Bingham reservoir. Six bedrooms, four bathrooms (two en-suite), three reception rooms, study/playroom, kitchen/breakfast room, utility room, laundry room, two cloakrooms. Self-contained four-bedroom cottage and a one-bedroom flat. Former granary/artist's studio, summerhouse, stable block. About £500,000 (Humberts, 0935 812323).

PROPERTY



EREDINE HOUSE, ARGYLL.
On Southern Banks of Loch Awe.
Large Country House with breathtaking views. 4 rec; billiard room; fitted kitchen with AGA; 10 bedrooms (2 en-suite); 3 bathrooms; 4 car garage; 2 holiday cottages; boat house; walled garden; further 17 rooms yet to be refurbished plus various outbuildings. The whole offers great potential for further development for private or commercial use subject to P.P. Fishing rights on hill lochs. Set in approx 29 acres with over 1 mile shoreline. Offers over £225,000. Tel: 08584 207

GOLDERS GREEN
Bridge lane.
2nd floor flat in immac. order with one bedroom, fully fitted kitchen, bathroom. All carpets, furniture, fixtures, fittings included. Available for immediate occupation.
Tel: (0533) 517 986
For further details and viewing arrangements

BATTERSEA VILLAGE
Quietly positioned in a crescent, within a few minutes walk of the river and just West of the park and with a south facing garden. Built just eleven years ago, the property is approached through a paved forecourt with offstreet parking for 2 cars and has a fully fitted kitchen/breakfast room, sitting room with patio doors, 2 double bedrooms, 1 further bedroom, bathroom and downstairs cloakroom. All this and the lowest council tax in the country for only £99,950!
Telephone 071 223 4707.



OWERMOIGNE
nr. Dorchester Dorset.
Do you require a gorgeous country house with stunning views in 10 acres of parkstyle grounds, delightful, peaceful setting with its own watercourse, hot and cross lake, supping a drink from one of the southfacing balconies, listening to the nightingale and the running of the water, strolling amongst the exotic trees & shrubs or a swim at any time of the year? Then our 1920's house, sympathetically but beautifully modernised, is for you. £625,000.
Please telephone the owner: 0585 852854 for details.

NR.MARLOW BUCKS
TEL: (0494) 881285 or 882681
£315,000
Large family house set in glorious Chiltern countryside. Four reception rooms, six bedrooms, three bathrooms, two kitchens. Would suit family needing "Granny" accommodation. One third of an acre garden plus two acres of privately owned Common Land.

POWYS CONVERTED SMITHY
Cottage (part 200 yrs old.) Large kit-diner, 2 recepts, 5 bedrooms, utility, bathroom, GFCH, Garage. ½ acre gardens extensively planted, river frontage, fishing rights. Quick sale required hence price - region £60,000.
Telephone 0425 273144 for further details (after 6.00 p.m.)

BOURNEMOUTH - BOSCOMBE OVERCLIFF
Excellent position for all amenities. fully furnished ground floor apartment. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large lounge/dining room. Enclosed sun-terrace onto garden. Well equipped kitchen with washing machine and dishwasher etc. Modern block, 170 year lease. Secure underground garage. Own gas central heating. Well maintained block with low maintenance charge. £89,500.
Tel: 081 348 4542

WEST SUSSEX
Unique secluded position
South facing, desirable area, newly thatched 3 bedroom, cottage. 3 acres, bluebell woods, planning permission for extension.
£195,000.
Tel: 0798 812141

FULHAM
(2 mins Tube). Sunny, quiet, spacious 2 bed flat with leafy view in Mansion block. Beautiful fireplaces, fitted quality kitchen, light airy bathroom. Fastidiously maintained and decorated.
£105,000.
Telephone 071 370 2572. or 071 731 2695.

LA HERBOTIERE
Loire Valley. And even a flat for your granny ! This seventeenth century former post house has superb Loire views, stone fireplace, oak beams & 3 bedrooms. The 1500 m landscaped garden has a small orchard & outbuildings. Only 1½ hours from Paris by rail. In the heart of the Loire Valley. Lower ground floor has independent access.
Tel: 010.33.41.54.68.86.
(English spoken)

W2 QUADRANGLE CAMBRIDGE SQUARE
071 723 6422 - £170,000
Well proportioned well maintained two bed flat in prestigious block: Connaught village, bright with excellent views, offers privacy.
5 minutes Hyde Park, 7 minutes Marble Arch. Fitted kitchen, bathroom, W/C, spacious reception, lounge. 24 hour porterage.

NORTHUMBERLAND. HAMLET OF SHARPERTON -
Coquetdale. Elegant Georgian farmhouse (1752). Breathtaking countryside. 6 Bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, etc. Some refurbishment required. Small garden, adjacent land available. Outline planning permission for house if desired. Field Sports. Rothbury 5 miles, Alnwick 11 miles, N/C Airport 40 minutes. Appointment to view phone 0669 50342. Inclusive price £130,000.

FULHAM SW6
Pretty, modernised & well maintained south facing 3 bed terrace house in quiet road. Light & airy reception with fireplace, kitchen/breakfast room, bath, gch, sunny patio. Freehold. Handy to shops.
Tel 071 385 0774.

Mid Suffolk
Diss 9 miles.
GRADE II LISTED FARMHOUSE
1650
Well maintained, 4 bedrooms, 2 receptions, kitchen/living room, office, study.
1 acre mature grounds, situated in lovely hamlet adjacent village green.
1st time on the market for 35 years.
£187,500.
Tel: 0728 628284

CASTLE
Top Floor New Apartments.
Breathtaking views.
West Sussex
Hill top setting
Idyllic retreat
Offers over £215,000
Private Sale
Tel: 0903 771076

OFF KENSINGTON HIGH STREET
Lower ground floor flat. Large recep, 2 double / 1 single bedrooms, 2 baths, kitchen. Perfect decorative order. Garage, plus off street parking for second car. Banham security. Delightful trouble free gardens.
£175,000 for quick Executors sale.
Tel: 071 229 5798

WEST SUSSEX
Unique secluded position
South facing, desirable area, newly thatched 3 bedroom, cottage. 3 acres, bluebell woods, planning permission for extension.
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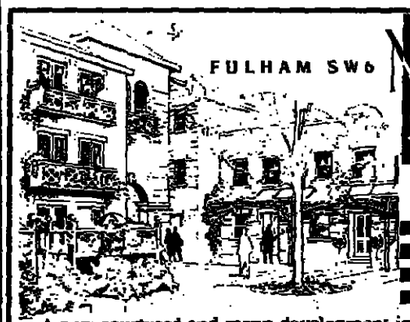
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COUNTRY LIFE

Reflection on an English meadow



Philip Howard listens to Arthur Fenton (above), for 75 years keeper of the Salisbury water meadows



Before the flood: the "navigation" from Britford, Wiltshire — "he ran his little kingdom with sluices and dams, playing with grown-up drains and puddles in a way to delight an

Some men succeed early. The Prince of Wales had nine titles before he was one. At the age of two, Sigmund Freud was sexually aroused at seeing his mother naked, if you can believe his notoriously lurid memory. Genghis Khan became leader of his tribe at 13.

For some people it takes longer. It took Ronnie Reagan 57 years more than Genghis to become leader of his tribe as president of the United States. Tolstoy finished writing *Anna Karenina* when he was 49, but did not have his first bicycle lesson until he was 67. Death closes all; but something ere the end, some work of noble note may yet be done.

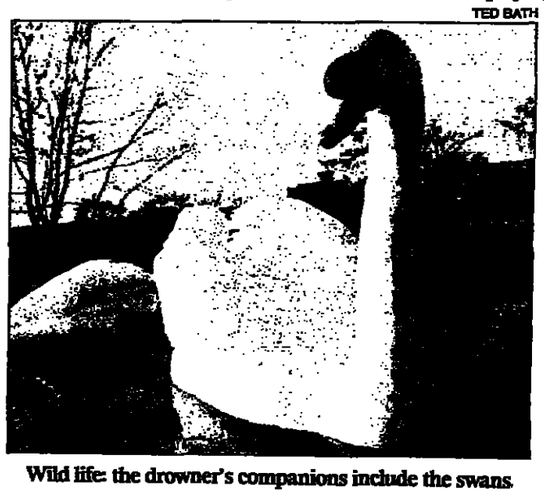
When Toscanini was the same age as Arthur Fenton, he conducted his last performance of Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* with the NBC Symphony Orchestra. At Arthur's age, Walter Savage Landor composed imaginary conversations between Virgil and Horace and Milton and Marvell, completing a series he had started when he was 49; and Robert Frost recited his poem "The Gift Outright" from memory at the inauguration of President John F. Kennedy.

In his quiet way, Arthur is as remarkable as any of these more famous men. He is 87, and until he retired last year he had done the same job in the same way for the past 75 years. There can be nobody around, outside China, sad home of dotty gerontocracy, with such a record. Do not even think of claiming that you have been doing exactly the same job in the same way for longer: it simply feels like that on Monday mornings.

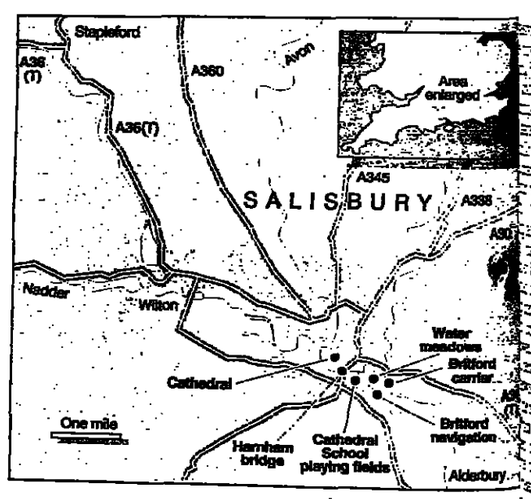
It was never a world-shaking or glamorous job, hounded by tabloid rat-pack. Every morning at dawn, Arthur got out his battered push-bike and old-fashioned tea-can and pedalled down the road to his water meadows. There, through the changing seasons of the year, he ran his little kingdom with sluices and ditches and dams, playing with grown-up drains and puddles in a way to delight any small boy who has ever enjoyed messing about with water.

Arthur was a drowner, *videlicet* the manager of water meadows. It is a trade that goes back to Roman times, and Arthur must be just about its last practitioner in the developed world. Now these methods of tending the land are being replaced by such things as new, improved fertilisers. Let not ambition mock the useful toil of drowners, their homely joys and destiny obscure.

TED BATH



Wild life: the drowner's companions include the swans



Arthur is a good old boy, a gaunt, fit man with thick specs and a cloth cap, a Wiltshire burr in his voice and a considerable store of folklore and humour in his idiosyncrasy. He worked on his own in his meadows, apart from the otters, and deer, and curlews and other birds, all his life, with the spire of Salisbury Cathedral pricking the horizon, on his beautiful stretch of the River Avon just above Longford Castle.

He worked with tools that are as old as when Adam delved and Eve span: a scythe, a spade and a sickle. The drowner's job is to irrigate the water meadows to produce crops of high-quality early grass for the sheep and cattle. This is done by an age-old network of streams and ditches, tunnels and sluices, all run by the old methods of hand and gravity.

In the summer, the water syphoned off from the Avon keeps the meadows fresh and damp underfoot, continually sprouting lush grass. But in the winter, when the Avon runs brown with silt, ecologically correct natural goodness is poured into the water meadows to invigorate and replenish them for the new grazing season. The drowner's job is to run his watery empire in peak condition for the season of the year and state of the weather, and continually to clear the ditches and river bed of nettles and other weeds, which are sore obstructions of water. Much of Arthur's time was spent scything and hacking in water up to his middle, and in digging the debris out of his little ditches.

When Arthur left school at 12, he started work as a milkman, up at 5am summer and winter, rosy-fingered dawn or killing frost, to milk his Friesians, sleek with water-meadow pasture. Then he worked for a spell as a gardener. But his father recruited him to the family business, and got him a meadow of his own as a drowner. This was the Snowdon of agricultural jobs for an independent country boy, because you were in charge and out in the meadow all day.

In those days every farm beside the Avon had its water meadows and its own drowner to run them. About then, back at the beginning of the century, came the great Salisbury flood, when the only way up and down the streets of Salisbury was in rowing boats, and Arthur's meadow vanished under the inundation. "You couldn't see anything of my meadow. But everything was washed down into it. You name it, it was out there in the meadow.

"One of the things I remember finding was a barn owl in a cage. I took her home and kept her as a pet for several years. Then two dead sheep came floating by, and I pushed them on down the river. Shortly after the sheep, a butcher from Salisbury came by, and asked if I had seen any sheep. I said I'd sent them on downstream. He said: 'That's a shame; they didn't die, they just drownded.' That *was* a shame, because he would have given me a pound for each of them. And a pound was worth something in them days."

Arthur is as full of country sayings as a book of proverbs. "Water's like fire, in a manner o' speaking. It's a good servant but if you let it get on top of you you're beat." "The more you know, the more you realise the less you know, if you see what I mean." "If you say so-and-so is going to happen, I say wait till tomorrow, and it probably won't happen."

They don't make proverbs like that any more in curry shops and launderettes, and we don

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PHOTOGRAPHS BY STEPHEN MARKESON



all boy who has ever enjoyed messing about with water"

have any Aesops left to recount them. They have been replaced by advertising jingles, which are less pithy and less wise, and often meaningless.

Arthur started work before the availability of gumboots, which has changed country life for the better more than most innovations. "There weren't such a thing as rubber boots in those days. I had leather boots a size too big, so I always wore two pairs of socks inside. The boots had a big tongue, and if you laced 'em up properly, you didn't get wet. But every night you had to remember to grease them, otherwise they were like boards in the morning."

Apart from the great flood, the nearest that the outside world came to intruding into Arthur's meadow was during the second world war, when two soldiers who had committed suicide were washed down into it. "You don't never know what to expect in a water meadow. Those two were to be sent off overseas. They didn't relish it. I don't know no more than that. They found the first one early. But the second one, I was clearing the weeds weeks later. I pulled the hatch, and I seed the body come up."

Was this not a hard and lonely life? I reckon the young today would not touch it with a bargepole. "After I lost my father, I was working on my own most of the time. You get used to it. There are the animals, and the birds, and the wild flowers. When I was young, it was the wild flowers that interested me most. But there are not so many about these days. I don't know if it's something in the air.

"I don't get lonely, because for most of my lifetime we had to make our own fun. Now everyone has a car and the villages are dead at night. We used to go into Salisbury to the pictures once a week, mebbe, but otherwise we knew how to amuse ourselves. It was a more peaceful life. Narr. I wouldn't want a car. My reactions aren't good enough these days. They say why don't I get a moped. But where's the point? My old bike's been good enough for donkey's years. I'd get just as wet on rainy days."

It was a slow life, in tune to the pavane of the seasons. But it seemed to make Arthur a happy man, with his watery kingdom and its inhabitants and visitors, swans galleoning, otters waddling on dry land, the plague of mink massacring the flocks of coot and moorhen. He sometimes found trout stranded after he had let the water out of the meadow. The local angling club used to keep a collection box for the drowners. They got a pound each after the spring inundation. And a pound was worth something in them days.

He is the last keeper of a watery wisdom 20 centuries old. Never turn the water out of a meadow during a frost, because it kills the grass, whereas the water running torpidly under the ice keeps it alive. About a week is the time to leave the water to lie in a meadow. Even if you cannot see it running, you learn to feel it underfoot.

It may be that drowning is considered an absurdly inefficient way of managing land. It may be Luddite to mourn its passing. In which case, enter me as a passionate Luddite. Modern methods may be quicker and better, but Arthur stands at the end of a long line of peculiarly English lore. His way of life and attitude to the world seem a great deal more sensible than most of our modern hurly-burly and hustle and bustle: and certainly more sensible than paying farmers *not* to farm their land.

Arthur certainly has no discontent: "I got no regrets. I've had a good life and a happy one. I can't grumble at that, can I?"

tes once a week, mebbe"

we used to go into S

SPORTING LIFE

Are you fit to ride a superbike?

You may have the right leathers for your big new bike, but you also need the muscles, as Ray Clancy discovered

DENZIL McNEELANCE



Pride comes before a fall: the new, improved, fitter Ray Clancy leaping nimbly over her bike — an action which resulted in three stitches and a sore leg

Today's motorbikes are bigger, more efficient, smoother and cleaner than ever before. Marlon Brando set the tone for a generation in his black leather in *The Wild One*, released in 1954, but even he could not foresee the Nineties boom in big bikes.

The average leather-clad rider of machines in the 500cc-plus category is likely to be a bank manager or an accountant, or even a journalist, the born-again motorcyclists who can now afford £5,000 to £10,000 for a machine that can accelerate twice as fast as a Porsche. But are these freedom seekers fit to ride such powerful machines?

When I bought a Suzuki VX 800 18 months ago I thought I was ready. My dreams of long, straight roads at dawn and curving round sharp corners at dusk were quickly shattered. At the end of the first half hour riding around Richmond Park in southwest London my wrists ached, my arms felt heavy and my legs were like jelly. I was totally unprepared for the bike's weight, and the sheer effort needed to keep control of such a powerful piece of state-of-the-art Japanese machinery.

An eager participant in many sports and a regular visitor to the gym for workouts, I had always regarded myself as a fit person. "What am I doing wrong?" I asked my trainer at the gym the next morning. "You need to develop and exercise the right muscles," he replied. I looked at him with disdain; after all, I was talking about riding a motorbike, not competing in a marathon.

After a session with a fitness analysis computer, a programme was worked out to mimic the movements made on the motorbike, using weights to strengthen muscles, as well as endurance work. The weight of the bike had to be taken into account as well.

Only slight adjustments were needed to my already full programme. It starts with five to ten minutes of stretching exercises, gently preparing the muscles for harder work ahead. Then I put in 30 minutes on the exercise bike. In the last two years I have gently increased the load substantially. On to the step machine, one of the most marvellous inventions as far as exercise is concerned, 15 minutes of concerted effort. It offers a steady pace, hill climbing, and even a random programme so that you never know what speed is coming up next. It tones the thighs beautifully, along with the calf muscles.

Next come the free weights, which are used to target specific muscles — I was able to introduce a wrist-strengthening exercise and improve my arm muscles. The variety of machines means weightlifting never becomes boring.

I had never trained for a specific goal before, just for general fitness. It was odd thinking about cornering, braking and centrifugal forces as the sweat poured.

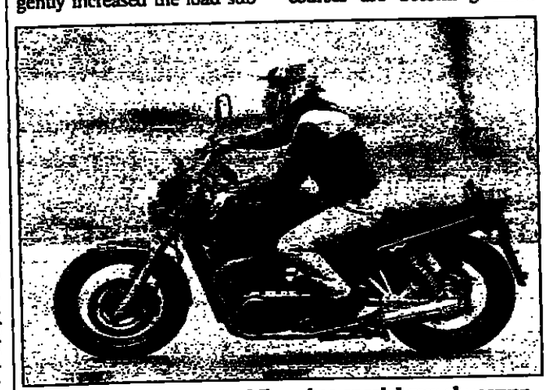
Psychological fitness is also important. Despite much-needed improvements to the motorcycling test it is still possible for a relatively inexperienced rider to buy a 500cc machine and roar off into the sunset. Advanced driving courses are becoming more and more popular. Colin Fenton, who runs weekend courses in Cambridgeshire, says most of his pupils admit that they feel safer by the end of the two-day course.

"There is a physical aspect to riding, that is something that people do not always expect. The important thing is not to overstretch yourself, and to take plenty of breaks. It tests your stamina, and to be safe you must adjust your speed to your level of concentration," says Mr Fenton, who always gives his pupils 30-minute tea breaks in the morning and afternoon as well as at least one hour for lunch.

For me the final test was whether or not the improved exercise regime paid off. Riding from London to the Dordogne in France last summer on holiday was the ultimate trial. The only problem on the all-day drive from Cherbourg to Nontron was a slightly numb bottom. The regime had worked. I was fitter and better able to enjoy the rigours of riding a large motorbike on a long journey, as well as being able to cope with the stress of keeping alert for dangers.

There is, however, a slight twist and a word of warning. Denzil, the photographer taking the pictures for this article, was trying hard to come up with an unusual idea. "Can you jump over the motorbike?" he asked. "It will make a great picture." Three attempts later he was almost satisfied. "Just look at the camera this time, not the ground." Crunch — my shin hit some part of the motorbike because I had been looking at the lens and not at the object I was jumping over.

The result — three stitches and a very stiff leg for the next five days. I'm sticking to the exercise — it's less dangerous.



Poetry in motion: but a bike takes special muscle power

Mean machines



Hell for leather: Marlon Brando in *The Wild One*

Motorbike
Suzuki VX 800 from around £4,500. Superbikes generally cost from £4,500 to £10,000.

Clothing
Helmet (essential) £64-280. Leather jacket from £75. Leather jeans from £60. Leather suit from £200. Waterproof jacket from £25. Waterproof trousers from £10. Leather gloves from £10. Boots from £70.

Training courses
Colin Fenton, Shire Training Services, St Ives, Cambridgeshire (0480 464689). CSM Advanced Rider Course, at 32 centres around the country (0245 494315). Institute of Advanced Motorists, IAM House, 359-365 Chiswick High Road, London W4 4HS (081-994 4403). County road safety officers are contactable through local council offices for details of courses in your area.

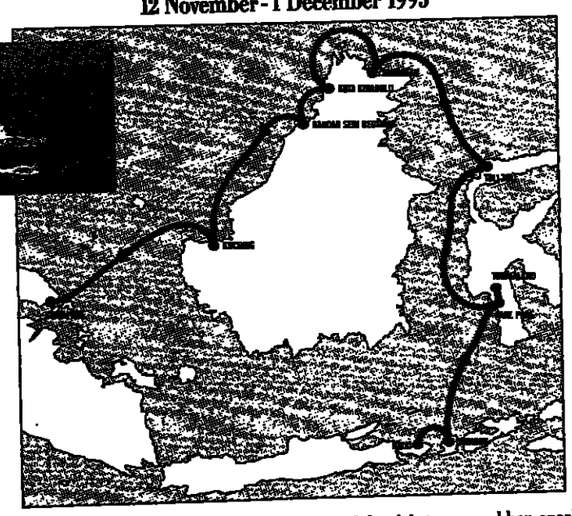
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Leaving Indonesian waters we will sail around the north shores of Borneo exploring the hinterlands of the Malaysian states. Particularly memorable aspects here will be the majestic beauty of Mount Kinabalu which dominates the city of Kota Kinabalu. Also our visit to Kuching, a city long romanticised by the colourful tales of the White Rajahs.

Our schedule has been planned to allow for an overnight mooring in Sulawesi's Pare Pare an intriguing region of the Torajan people. Those interested can join a party for an overnight visit to the interior of Torajaland.

This journey promises to be one of our more relaxing itineraries. Within the fifteen day sailing there will be five days at sea, which because of the geography of the area are divided evenly throughout the journey. This allows one to make the most of the visits ashore followed by a rest the next day as we sail on to our next discovery.

THE ITINERARY

DAY 1 Fly London (Heathrow) to Bali via Singapore.

DAY 2 Bali Arrive and drive to a first class hotel for a 3 night stay.

DAYS 3 & 4 Relax and enjoy the facilities of this first class resort hotel.

DAY 5 Embark on the MS Caledonian Star in the afternoon. Sail after dinner.

DAY 6 Lombok Drive through the beautiful scenery to Kuta and Wayuia Beach and to Sukarare to see traditional weaving.

DAY 7 At sea

DAY 8 Pare Pare We will moor overnight in the southern Sulawesi port, providing us with time to drive to Torajaland for an overnight stay. The area is perhaps best known for its unusual shaped houses – resembling ships.

DAY 9 Torajaland After a morning exploring the area, its people, customs and crafts, we will return to the vessel and sail in the evening.

DAY 10 At sea

DAY 11 Toli Toli Tourists are a rarity here and on our drive into the countryside past primitive villages, ancient megaliths and along the coast which offers magnificent coral reefs, you will feel that you have truly stepped back in time.

DAY 12 At sea

DAY 13 Sandakan Visit the famous Sepilok Orang-Utan Sanctuary, a 4000 hectare area of rain forest which is home to wild and rehabilitated orang-utangs.

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DAY 16 At sea

DAY 17 Kuching Exploration ashore will include the Margherita Fort, the Raja's Istana Palace and the Museum.

DAY 18 At sea

DAY 19 Singapore Arrive in the morning and disembark. Morning excursion of Singapore. Courtesy rooms at the Hilton Hotel until evening departure for London.

DAY 20 London (Heathrow) Arrive in the morning.

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The regional finals of *The Times* Knockando Crossword Championship start tomorrow. **John Grant** offers a few hints

All clued up and ready to win

When Sir Compton Mackenzie observed that the average Englishman is two whiskies below par, he may have had crossword solvers in mind. Earlier this year, Mr J.H. Wagstaff, in a letter to *The Times*, said the crossword was getting more difficult, and was this a good thing in a time of recession?

Surely the decisive factor in solving crosswords is not so much their difficulty as how one feels at the time. When one is having a lucid interval, the puzzle can unravel like frayed knitting. But if Everyman is out of humour then nothing will yield.

Other solvers, it was clear, were anxious for Mr Wagstaff to be right. If the puzzles were getting more difficult, if the compilers (as some readers suggested) were getting younger (actually, they obey the same natural laws as solvers, and get older), then it was not after all the deterioration of the cerebral cortex that was the trouble.

I have to say, however, that there has been no anarchic attempt to make the puzzle more difficult, and the compilers have changed little over the years. The Monday puzzle is intended to be the easiest of the week, in the belief that Monday mornings are stressful enough as they are. Each puzzle during the week is by a different hand, so the difficulty varies daily. And the Saturday prize puzzle is not necessarily the most difficult of the week — it is simply the one I hope will give most pleasure.

Mr D.G. Page, of Orpington, Kent, perhaps put his finger on it in an unpublished letter: "As a daily solver for more than 20 years, I have noticed periodic swings. A difficult week or so is often followed by an 'easy' week, when all the puzzles are solved in half or even a third of norm. Surely this is due to changes of compiler(s) and one being in tune, rather than to suddenly failing IQ!"

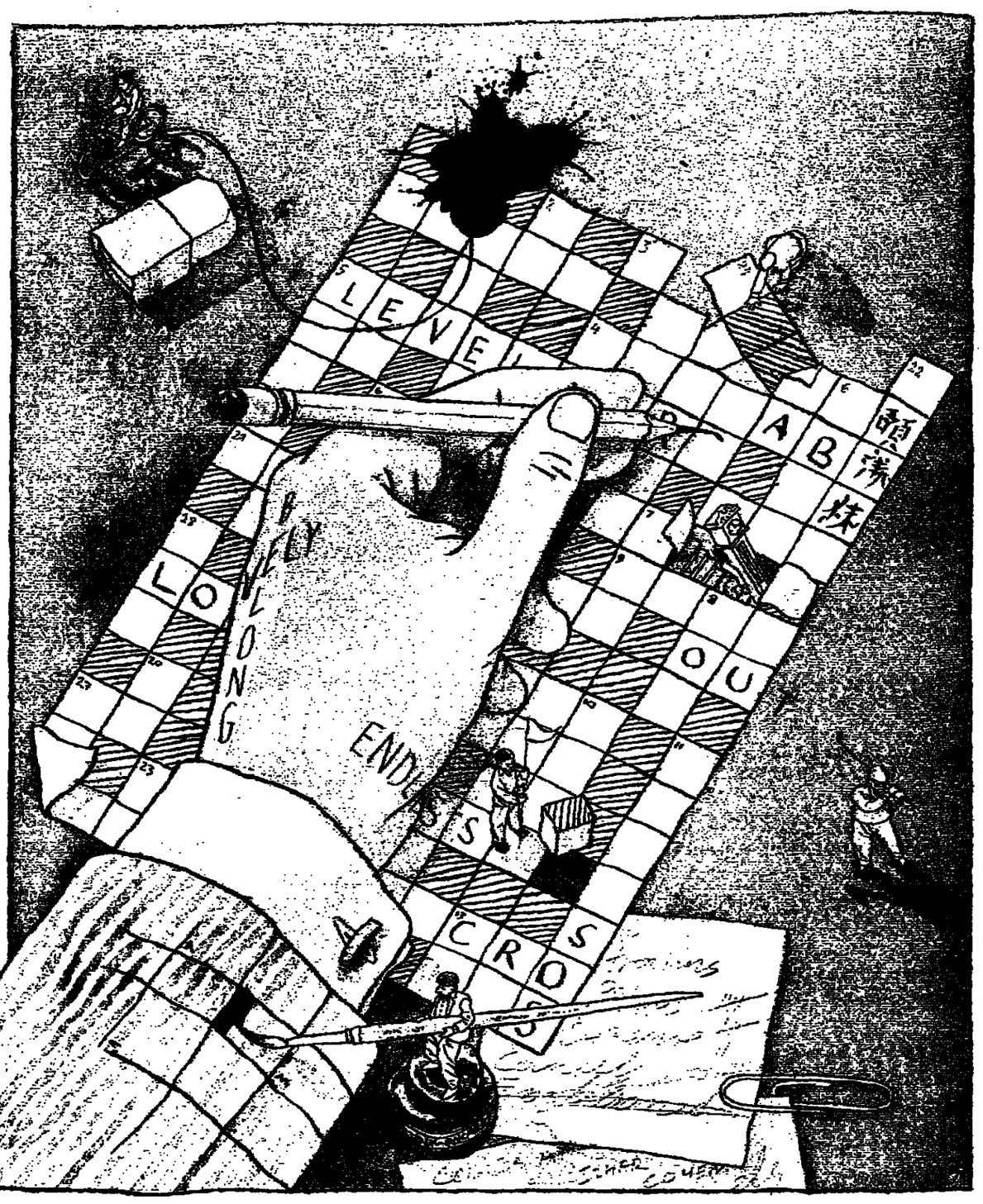
If none of this convinces struggling solvers, perhaps they should ask themselves whether their personal norms for doing the crossword are realistic. As a golfing friend said when apologising for letting his partner down: "I usually play much better than this — though I never have."

They had better be on their guard on Thursday when the Eliminator Puzzle appears, and should not send for a physician if they cannot solve it. Its purpose is to reduce to manageable proportions the number of competitors who have qualified for the Bristol and London A and B finals of *The Times* Knockando Crossword Championship 1993, and is intentionally difficult.

Indeed, some people feel discriminated against by being made to struggle twice for their place in the finals. There are even those who think this year's Qualifier Puzzle was deliberately too easy — a rip-off to extract fivers from simple Londoners. They forget that the Qualifier is always easy. We do not wish to discourage anyone, since lots of our entrants enjoy competing.

Those who have to do the Eliminator in earnest are urged to submit their solutions even if incomplete, as they are likely to be admitted. Oddly perhaps, not all the clues are difficult. To compile the Eliminator one starts early in the year, saving unusual or recondite words and phrases that may be susceptible to clueing.

The most promising words usually disappoint. Lafcadio Hearn, for example, the writer who went Japanese, resists the apt anagram: emeutes, or popular uprisings, seems to appear only in the Sergeant's song in *The Pirates of Penzance*: and Duypuytren, the French surgeon who gave his name to the contraction of the hand, is quite impossible. In the end, one is left with at most a dozen clues of more than ordinary difficulty. The rest are normal, and if they look hard, it is only because the solver does not know which they are.



MAKING KNOCKANDO IS A BIT LIKE DOING THE TIMES CROSSWORD.

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO SAY HOW LONG IT'S GOING TO TAKE.

How does a fine, single malt like Knockando come to be associated with The Times Crossword?

Is it because, like the Crossword, some get through it quicker than others?

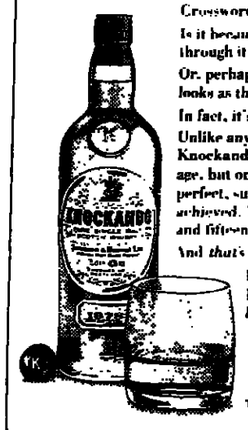
Or, perhaps, because the word Knockando looks as though it should be followed by 'anag'?

In fact, it's none of these.

Unlike any other single malt whisky, Knockando is bottled not at a pre-determined age, but only when taste confirms that its perfect, subtly complex balance has been achieved. This can be any time between twelve and fifteen years.

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Who's for a slice of cow pie?

Children's comics are under threat from the instant excitement of computer games, video and television.

Jessica Gorst Williams talks to readers

Computer games and comics, perennial rivals for children's attention, have finally joined forces. *Sonic the Comic* is to be launched this month, featuring characters from Sega computer games.

The hype is that it will topple *The Beano* from its bestselling position and leave the rest of the market panting as the first of its fortnightly issues zooms off with a 350,000 print run.

"Children are not as interested in the written word as they were," Tim Barnett, former deputy editor of *Roy of the Rovers*, said when that comic folded in the spring. "We are trying to compete with games consoles and television in general.

"Children seem prepared to spend £45 on a new computer game rather than 55p on a new comic," he added.

> 'Children seem prepared to spend £45 on a new computer game rather than 55p on a new comic'

Sales of traditional comics have been falling over the past ten years, but computers are not entirely to blame. "Free" comics coming with national newspapers have taken their toll, and so have the tabloids. One research study found that by the time boys reach the 11-14 age band, more read *The Sun* than any comic. Moreover, newsagents' shelves have been overflowing with comics linked to a particular craze or current television series, which have a built-in sell-by date.

In view of all this, the real surprise is how well traditional comics have stood up. So who is buying them? Who reads them? Do schools approve of them? I conducted my own survey of 260 children (198 boys, 62 girls) aged four to 12, mostly with parents who read a quality newspaper. Of the 73 who never read a comic, only two are girls. Three eight-year-old boys did not know what comics were.

Thirty-eight boys, mostly between 11 and 12, only read comics with a computer connection. Twenty-four children only read those that come free with their parents' newspapers. Of the remaining 125, 82 have at least one comic a week.

Just over half the comic readers were asked if they read the comics for the words or the pictures. A quarter said they only looked at the pictures.

Nearly a third of all the children said they usually paid for the comics with their own pocket money.

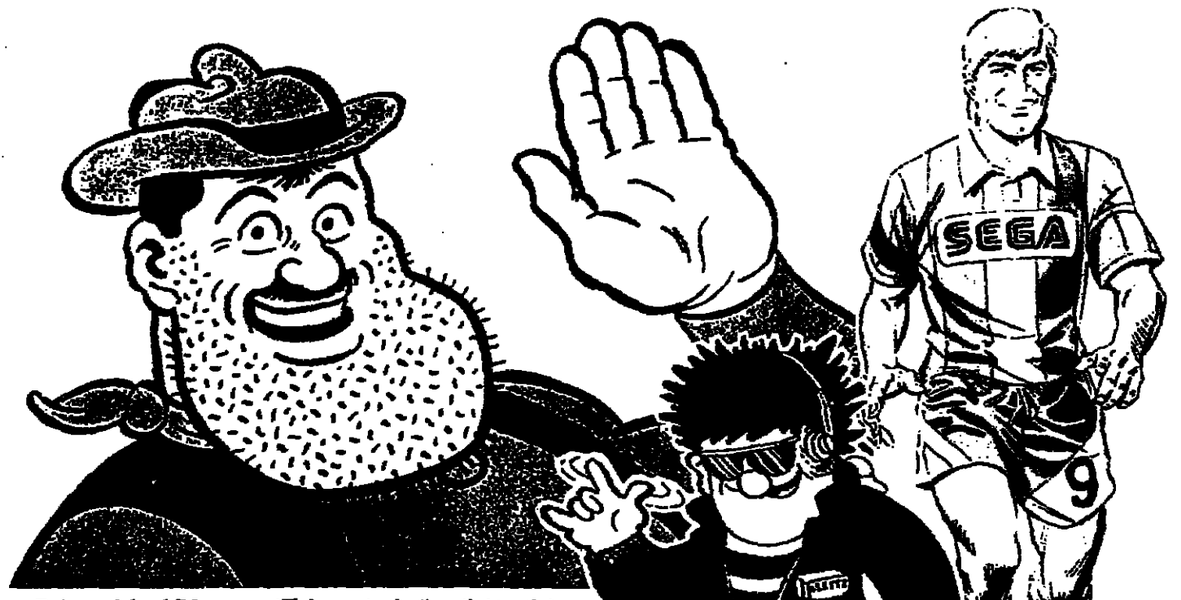
The main reason the children gave for reading comics was "they are funny", closely followed by the lure of the competitions and the chance to join clubs. Many wished there was more about animals. The children who read the most comics tended to be the widest general readers.

Jackie Bacon, headteacher at Hilden Oaks School, Tonbridge, Kent, summed up for all four of the English teachers I spoke to when she said: "I'd encourage children to read them, particularly the slower readers — as long as they lead on to something else. It's like the Enid Blyton syndrome. It's always much better to read something than nothing."

In its 56th year, D.C. Thomson's *The Beano* (weekly, 30p) still outstrips all the competition. Felicity Miller, a teacher at Yardley Court school in Kent, says this is because children would really like to behave like Dennis the Menace and Ivy the Terrible, cocking a snook at the adult world.

"It's just the best," explains Hugh, aged ten. Sixty-nine per cent of *The Beano*'s readership are boys, 31 per cent girls, mainly aged seven to 13.

From the same stable, *The Dandy* (weekly, 30p) shares much of *The Beano*'s enduring appeal. "Desperate Dan was always my favourite," a Carmelite nun who has been in a monastery order for 30 years told me. "The rootin', tootin' tough guy" with a heart of gold dates back to the first ever issue of *Dandy*, in 1937. The publisher, D.C. Thomson, does not release figures for individual comics, but together *Beano* and *Dandy* sell about 327,556 copies, 75 per cent to boys, 25 per cent to girls.



Role models: children are still drawn to the "rootin' tootin' tough guy" Desperate Dan and the naughtiness of Dennis the Menace and Korky the Cat, although Roy scored his last goal for the Rovers in the spring

For girls, *Bunty* (weekly, 40p) is punchy and sympathetic. It steers its way through everyday issues such as redundancy and the implications of borrowing money, while keeping a good storyline. Three seven-year-olds said they read it "because of the animals in it". For seven to 13-year olds, it sells 47,196 copies (to 91 per cent girls, 9 per cent boys).

Duncan, aged ten, has never read comics before. *Buster* (weekly, 55p) has converted him. "It's really good," he says. It advertises itself as "all-colour". The children I spoke to rejected comics with whole pages of black and white. For ages seven to 13, it sells 38,030 copies, two-thirds boys, one third girls.

Moving backwards down the age scale, *Rosie and Jim* (monthly, 99p) is a fun-to-learn pre-school comic associated with a television programme, which requires some adult or sibling supervision. Richard, aged four, with Nicola, seven, spent two hours enjoying stories, filling in answers, joining dots to dots and stencilling with free gift stencil.

Launched in September 1992, *Rosie and Jim* already sells 80,000 copies. 50/50 girls and boys.

Playdays (weekly, 55p) says it is "compatible with the National Curriculum". It is also linked to the television programme. Some help is expected — David, six, went through it with Richard, four. "We liked the photographs of the animals with a story best." Circulation is about 60,000, 50/50 boys and girls. For pre-school children.

Early Times (weekly, 50p) provides serious news in a digestible form with searching "life issues" features mixed with entertainment, competitions and a problem page. "I look at the sport first," says Hugo, ten, a regular reader, "then the animals and the news." As for circulation, *Early Times* is hoist with on its own petard, being read avidly by children and approved of by adults. Many schools buy it, so circulation figures of 30,000 in no way reflect true readership. Aimed at ten to 16 age group; 50/50 girls and boys.

Horse and Pony (fortnightly, 99p) "makes you want to learn about horses in a simple way but knowledgeably", says Lucinda, ten, pony-owner and regular reader. "The two-page photo story is really good. So are the competitions." For the ten to 15 age group, it sells 54,112 copies, 90 per cent to girls.

Musiclub (every two months, £2.50) is run voluntarily on a shoestring by two mothers for music-loving children such as their own. Spilling over with flair and style, it has competitions and crosswords interspersed with information about choir schools and grants. Pen friendships can be set up through the letters column. "Brilliant," said Henrietta, 16, "particularly the nuggets of information and the drawings." For ages nine upwards, it sells 10,000. Available at some newsagents or from 98 Mortlake Road, Kew, Surrey TW9 4AS (081-876 6728).

The children I spoke to were not thinking of changing their reading habits. So the odds are on *The Beano* continuing to grip a large audience — and not a computer in sight.

Events

☐ **COMMONWEALTH EXPERIENCE:** The Commonwealth Institute is marking its centenary with a variety of exhibitions. Among them are an audio-visual presentation, "A World of Masks", which evokes carnival around the world with live actors; and "Botswana Live!", a collection of contemporary arts and crafts, with story-telling workshops for all ages (tomorrow, May 30) and dance/drumming workshops for over-sixes (May 22, 29). *Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, London W8 (071-603 4535). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 11am-5pm. Passport ticket £4, concessions £2; Botswana Live! only £2, concessions £1.*

☐ **THE EIGHTH UK TOY AND MODEL SOLDIER SHOW:** This year the show attracts more than 50 dealers from all over Europe will be selling old and new figures in metal, plastic and composition. *The Queen Charlotte Hall, Richmond Adult and Community College, Parkshot, Richmond, southwest London (071-833 3053/609 8500, 081-744 2014). Today, 11am, adults £1; children and concessions 50p.*

☐ **POTTERS BAR:** Gerry Cottle's new travelling theme park, *Xanadu*, is said to offer freak shows, pyrotechnics, wandering performers, circus skills workshops, displays, and no live animals. *Baker Street Carnival Ground, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire (0891 445600). Signposted from the M25 Potters Bar junction. Mon-Fri 6-10pm, Sat 2-10pm, Sun 2-6pm; all tickets £5.*

☐ **WEYBRIDGE:** The annual MG Regency Run, with more than 100 MGs of all ages, sets off for Brighton from Brooklands Museum tomorrow at 8pm. At about 11am, 20 or so aeroplanes from the Lawyers Flying Association will fly in and can be viewed close-up, followed by a display of Citroën "specials" in the paddock. *Brooklands Museum, Brooklands Road, Weybridge, Surrey (0932 857381). Tomorrow, breakfast from 7.30am, adults £4, children £2, under-fives free.*

☐ **SHEFFIELD:** For the first time this year the **Sheffield Chamber Music Festival** includes a children's opera, *The Two Lockets*, involving local children. The opera follows the fortunes of a family divided by 100 years of war and religious upheaval, from the Armada to the battle of Sedgemoor. *Crucible Theatre Studio, Norfolk Street, Sheffield (0742 769922). Today 10.30am and 2pm, adults £3.80, children £2.50.*

KARI KNIGHT

WHAT'S ON

THEATRE

LONDON

ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA: Richard Johnson and Clare Higgins in John Caird's thoughtful but not universally liked production. **Barbican**, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-638 8891). Previews from Thurs, 7.15pm, opens May 26, 7pm; then in repertoire.

THE CHANGELING: Michael Attenborough's vivid and lusty production from Stratford, with Cheryl Campbell and Malcolm Storry sinking into evil. **The Pit**, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-638 8891). Previews from Wed, 7.15pm; opens May 25, 7pm; then in repertoire.

CRAZY FOR YOU: Thrillingly staged Gershwin musical. **Prince Edward**, Old Compton Street, W1 (071-734 8951) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 3pm.

CITY OF ANGELS. Top quality Larry Gelbart/Cy Coleman musical, packed with wit, set in L.A. and the world of the private eye movie. **Prince of Wales**, Coventry Street, W1 (071-839 5972) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm.

THE GIFT OF THE GORGON: Blazing performance by Judi Dench in combat with Michael Pennington in Peter Shaffer's RSC success tackling the themes of justice and terrible revenge. **Wyndham's**, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 3pm.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST: Maggie Smith commands the brittle world of lost handbags in this elegant revival. *With Alex Jennings, Richard E. Grant, Margaret Tyzack.* **Aldwych**, The Aldwych, WC2 (071-836 6404). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm.

JUNO AND THE PAYCOCK: The Dublin Gate Theatre's acclaimed production, in London for five weeks at the end of a national tour. **Albery**, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-867 1115). Previews Mon, Tues, 7.45pm; opens Wed, 7pm; then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 2.30pm.

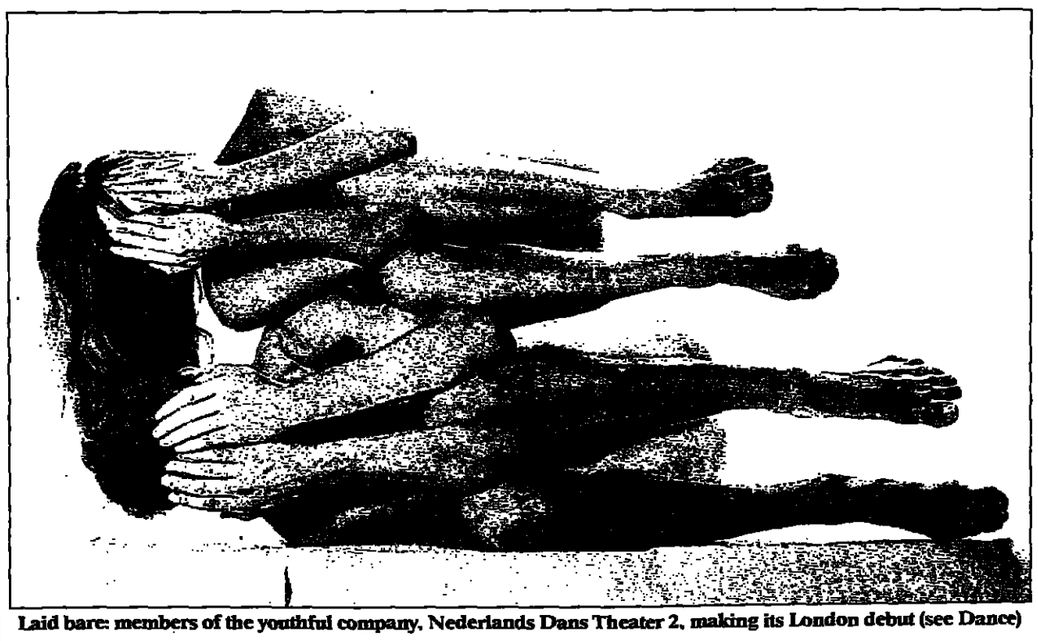
REGIONAL

BRISTOL: Seven young actors in Trevor Griffiths's *Thatcher's Children*, a hard but comic look at the "Thatchering" of Britain: growing up in the 1980s, reaping the harvest in the 1990s. **Theatre Royal**, King Street (0272 250250). Preview Wed, 7.30pm; opens Thurs, 8pm; then Mon-Wed, 7.30pm, Thurs-Sat, 8pm.

CHICHESTER: Susan Hampshire stars with Sarah Brightman in Coward's 1950s hit comedy *Relative Values*. Tim Luscombe directs. **Festival Theatre**, Oaklands Park (0243 781312). Previews Wed, Thurs, 7.30pm, Thurs mat, 2.30pm, May 24 and 25, 7.30pm; opens May 26, 7pm; then in repertoire with *Getting Married*.

EDINBURGH: Summer season of farce opens with *A Little Hotel on the Side*, vintage Feydeau translated by John Mortimer. *Farces* by Frayn and Travers join the repertoire in June. **Royal Lyceum**, Grindlay Street (031-229 9697). Opens Fri, 8pm; then Mon-Sat, 8pm.

SOUTHAMPTON: Timothy West plays a jaded Irish actor offered a chance of fame as an American evangelist in Brian Phelan's *Himself*. Tour follows. **Nuffield**, University Road (0703 671771). Previews from Thurs, 7.30pm; opens May 25, 7.30pm; then Mon-Thurs, 7.30pm, Fri and Sat, 8pm.



Laid bare: members of the youthful company, Nederlands Dans Theater 2, making its London debut (see Dance)

FILM

ACCIDENTAL HERO (15): Promising satire on hero worship, marred by a grating Dustin Hoffman performance. Andy Garcia, Geena Davis; director Stephen Frears. **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **West End** (0426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

ALIVE (15): A terrific plane crash, then it's slowly downhill for this true-life story of survival and cannibalism. Ethan Hawke, Vincent Spano; director, Frank Marshall. **Empire** (071-437 1234/497 9999) **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

GROUNDHOG DAY (PG): Harold Ramis's marvellously fresh, humane comedy about a weatherman (Bill Murray) who always wakes up to the same day. **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426 915683) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

INDECENT PROPOSAL (15): Sex, greed and Robert Redford: a potent mixture, though Adrian Lyne's film gets sillier scene by scene. With Demi Moore, Woody Harrelson. **Barbican** (071-638 8891) **Camden Parkway** (071-267 7034) **Empire** (071-437 1234/497 9999) **MGM Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** (071-727 6705) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

LEOLO (18): Demanding, audacious, exciting journey through a Montreal family's madness. Writer-director, Jean-Claude Lauzon. **Chelsea** (071-351 3742/3743) **Metro** (071-437 0757) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Screen on the Green** (071-226 3520).

MISTRESS (15): Trials and tribulations of a low-budget film project. Appealing if slender Hollywood satire, with Martin Landau. Director, Barry Primus. **Plaza** (071-437 1234/497 9999).

SOMMERSBY (12): Richard Gere returns to Jodie Foster after the Civil War, but is he really her husband? Plush hokum, based on *The Return of Martin Guerre*. Director, Jon Amiel. **Barbican** (071-638 8891) **Camden Parkway** (071-267 7034) **Empire** (071-437 1234/497 9999) **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **MGM Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

THE STORY OF QIU JU (12): Chinese stylist Zhang Yimou changes tack with a wonderful, simple film about a peasant (Gong Li) seeking justice. **Curzon West End** (071-439 4805) **Gate** (071-727 4043) **Screen on the Hill** (071-435 3366).

UN COEUR EN HIVER (12): Love, sly games and damaged friendships between two instrument makers and a young violinist. Wonderfully observant, delicate drama from Claude Sautet. With Daniel Auteuil, Emmanuelle Béart, André Dussollier. **Camden Plaza** (071-485 2443) **Lumière** (071-836 0691) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666).

MUSIC

CLASSICAL

LONDON SINFONIETTA: György Ligeti is 70 this year. The Sinfonietta, which has enjoyed a long and close association with the Hungarian composer, marks his anniversary today with events including a solo keyboard recital by John Constable (6pm), and an ensemble concert under Markus Stenz (7.30pm). **Barbican**, London, EC2 (071-638 8891), tonight.

OPERA

THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO David Freeman's witty 1991 staging of Mozart's comedy, one of Opera Factory's most popular productions, starts a national tour. Janis Kelly is the Countess Almaviva, Geoffrey Dolton the Count; Susannah Waters sings Susanna, Mary Hegarty Cherubino, and Patrick Donelly Figaro. Mark Wigglesworth conducts. **Queen Elizabeth Hall**, London, SE1 (071-928 8800), Fri, 7pm.

THE MAKROPOULOS CASE: David Pountney's stylish production of one of Janáček's greatest and most moving operas returns to Scottish Opera after an absence of a decade. With Kathryn Harries as the 300-year-old protagonist. John Mauceri conducts. **Theatre Royal**, Glasgow (041-332 9000), Tues, 7.15pm.

ROCK

SUEDE: With the success of their eponymous debut album, the pouting glam rockers have lived up to early expectations. **London**, Brixton Academy (071-326 1022), tomorrow, 7pm. **Birmingham**, Hummingbird (021-236 4236), Tues, 7pm. **Brighton**, Event (0273 732627), Wed, 7.30pm. **Poole**, Arts Centre (0202 685 222), Fri, 7.30pm.

EVERYTHING BUT THE GIRL: Following Ben Watt's recovery from illness, the songwriting duo embarks on a nationwide tour. **Glasgow**, Pavilion (041-332 1846), Mon, 7.15pm. **Corn Exchange**, Cambridge (0223 357851), Wed, 6.45pm. **Bristol**, Victoria Rooms (0272 734460), Thurs, 7.15pm.

JAZZ

LONDON JAZZ FESTIVAL: This week sees a varied programme including the World Saxophone Quartet with the superb David Murray (Bloomsbury Theatre, today, 7.30pm), influential cornetist Nat Adderley and his quintet (Jazz Cafe, Tues, Wed, 7pm), and for lovers of improvised music, John Surman's Brass Project (Lilian Baylis, Tues, 7.45pm). **London Jazz Information Hotline** 071-911 1652.

ALLAN HOLDSWORTH: This is the English leg of a tour which has seen the electric guitarist in Europe and Japan promoting his album, *The Wardenclyffe Tower*. **London**, The Orange (071-371 4317/4526), today, 6.30pm. **Birmingham**, Ronnie Scotts (021-643 4525), tomorrow, 7.30pm. **Manchester**, Band on the Wall (061-834 1786), Mon and Tues, 8.30pm. **Leeds Jazz Festival**, Irish Centre (0532 480887/489649), Wed, 7.30pm. **Glasgow Mayfest**, Renfrew Ferry (041-227 5511), Fri, 6.40pm.

EXHIBITIONS

LONDON

WILLIAM BLAKE: As it completes its series of Turner shows, the Tate embarks on a similar series devoted to its Blake collection. "Independence and Innovation", covers the years 1779-1789. **Tate Gallery**, Millbank, SW1 (071-821 1313) Mon-Sat, 10am-5.50pm, Sun, 2-5.50pm, from Tues to August 8.

TRADITION AND REVOLUTION IN FRENCH ART: This show representing the collection of the Musée des Beaux-Arts in Lille includes some familiar works such as Delacroix's *Medea and David's Belisarius*, but its strength is in fine works by academic painters little known in this country. **National Gallery**, Trafalgar Square, WC2 (071-839 3321). Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm (Wed to 8pm), Sun, midday-6pm, until July 11.

GEORGIA O'KEEFFE/JAMES TURRELL: An odd mating at the Hayward Gallery brings together a retrospective of Georgia O'Keeffe (1887-1986), leading figure of the American avant-garde, and James Turrell (born 1943), who works in pure light. **Hayward Gallery**, South Bank, SE1 (071-921 0873). Daily, 10am-6pm (Tues, Wed to 8pm), until June 27.

REGIONAL

LUCIENNE DAY: The artist whose most famous fabric design, *Calyx*, was made for the Festival of Britain, is still at work, making silk mosaic wall-hangings for her own pleasure. High time for a reappraisal. **Whitworth Art Gallery**, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester (061-273 4865). Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm (Thursday to 9pm), until June 26.

ROMANESQUE: Surprisingly, the opening show of the new Henry Moore Institute galleries in Leeds is not devoted to Moore or his contemporaries but to stone sculptures from medieval England. **Henry Moore Institute**, 75 The Headrow, Leeds (0532 467467). Mon-Fri, 10am-5.30pm (Wed to 9pm), Sat-Sun, 1-5pm, until July 19.

DANCE

SWAN LAKE: In this afternoon's performance William Trevitt makes an unscheduled debut as Siegfried, filling in for an injured Bruce Sansom. Trevitt's partner will be the experienced and elegant Deborah Bull as Odette-Odile. Tonight, with Jonathan Cope injured, Darcey Bussell finds herself with an unexpected Prince in Adam Cooper. **Royal Opera House**, London, WC2 (071-240 1066). Today, 2.30pm, 7.30pm, Wed, 7.30pm.

NDT2. This is the second company of Nederlands Dans Theater, one of the most innovative and successful companies in Europe. NDT2, which began as NDT's student group, comprises young dancers, aged between 17 and 21, who perform a repertory of new and established dance works, including pieces by NDT's artistic director, Jiri Kylian. **Sadler's Wells Theatre**, London, EC1 (071-278 8916), Tues to next Sat, 7.30pm.

NEW VIDEOS

GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS (20:20 Vision, 15): Real-estate salesmen fight for their lives. Energetic version of David Mamet's play with a terrific performance from Al Pacino. Director, James Foley. 1992.

SISTER ACT (Buena Vista, PG): Whoopi Goldberg hides out in a convent. Surprisingly disarming, warm-hearted comedy. 1992.

A WINTER'S TALE (Artificial Eye, 12). A Paris hairdresser's quest for true love. Eric Rohmer near his best: crisp and elegant. Charlotte Véry heads an attractive cast of unknowns. 1992.

URGA (Curzon Video, PG): Nikita Mikhalkov's beautifully mounted and mesmerising film about civilisation encroaching on the Mongolian steppes; a Venice Film Festival prizewinner in 1991.

BOOKINGS

TANGO PARA DOS. This Argentinian company makes its British debut at Sadler's Wells this summer with a 33-piece programme that traces the history of the tango from its beginnings in the suburban slums of Buenos Aires to the fashionable nightclub scene of the roaring Twenties. **Sadler's Wells**, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (071-278 8916), June 22-July 10.

WYNTON MARSALIS GROUP: The formidable jazz trumpeter is back in Britain this year appearing with regular sidemen, alto saxophonist Wes Anderson, tenor saxophonist Todd Williams, trombonist Wycliffe Gordon, bass player Reginald Veal, drummer Herlin Riley and new recruit, pianist Eric Reed. **Manchester**, The Ritz (061-236 7110), June 1. **Edinburgh**, Queen's Hall (031-668 2019), June 3. **London**, The Grand (071-738 9000), June 4. **Birmingham**, Town Hall (021-236 2392), June 6.

Film: Geoff Brown; **Theatre:** Jeremy Kingston; **Classical Music and Opera:** Ian Brunskill; **Rock and Jazz:** Stephanie Osborne, **Dance:** Debra Craine; **Exhibitions:** John Russell Taylor; **New Videos:** Geoff Brown; **Bookings:** Kari Knight

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 18

RIDLEY

(c) Either of two species of marine turtle, *Lepidochelys hempii* of the Atlantic or *Lepidochelys olivacea* of the Pacific and Indian oceans, etymology unknown: "The Atlantic ridley is widely known as the bastard turtle, the name stemming from the mistaken belief that it is the offspring of a green turtle and a loggerhead."

KERESAN

(b) A linguistic group consisting of Keres only, from *Keres* or *Queres*, the American Indian name for a Pueblo Indian people inhabiting parts of New Mexico: "The Pueblo Indians number about 10,000. They are usually classified according to language into four or five stocks, the Hopi of Arizona, the Ashiwi or people of Zuñi, the Keres of Acoma and Laguna to the west and, to the east, the Tanoans including the Tewa and the people of Jemez."

TAM-TAM

(a) A metal gong of oriental origin, specifically a Chinese gong, now used in western orchestras, echoic, apparently of Creole origin: "The tone of the gong does not differ from that of the tamtam but is definite in pitch. Sometimes composers prescribe a gong when they obviously mean a tamtam."

COUBA

(c) A variety of Australian acacia, *Acacia salicina*, also *cooba*, *coobah*, *coubah*, from the native name: "A deep reach of the river, shaded by couba trees."

Down to his last two helicopters

Peter Guttridge meets James Clavell, who has a new novel, a companion piece to his *Tai-Pan*, *The Noble House* and *Shogun*



A scene from *Shogun*, a mini-series from a James Clavell novel which attracted the second highest audience ever for such a show

James Clavell does not confuse business with pleasure. The Australian-born son of an English naval officer, whose career as author, scriptwriter, film director and producer has spanned almost 40 years, may only just have sat down for lunch in Langan's — but that does not mean he has time for idle chit-chat.

Tall and seventysomething, with stern good looks, he halts a story when he realises the tape recorder isn't yet turned on. He is charming and forthcoming when the tape is on, brusque and remote when it is off.

"I try and avoid interviews," he says. "Interviews are business and I try to do the best I can each time and then forget them. Otherwise I would go crazy."



James Clavell: no time for any idle chit-chat

The business that has brought him from his home in France is the promotion of his new blockbuster novel, *Gai-Jin*, the latest in a best-selling "Asian saga" which includes *Tai-Pan*, *The Noble House*, and of course *Shogun*. *Shogun*, the story of an Elizabethan adventurer shipwrecked in Japan, spawned the second highest-rated series in American television history, attracting more than 120 million viewers.

Reading *Gai-Jin*, you excuse Clavell his crustiness, for the 1,019-page epic is a herculean achievement. Although accused in the past of dispensing with characterisation in favour of plot, his tale of the *gai-jin* (foreigners) in Japan in 1862 caught up in a power struggle between the Shogunate, the Emperor and a group of revolutionary samurai has strong plot and strong characterisation.

Among the *gai-jin* is Malcolm Struan, young heir to the Tai-Pan of the Noble House. But in the course of the book it is not Malcolm but his French wife Angelique who becomes the protagonist.

"Yes, that surprised me," Clavell says. "But you never know how these things are going to turn out. For example, I was expecting Mrs Struan [Malcolm's mother, who disapproves of his relationship with Angelique] to arrive from Hong Kong on every damned boat, but she never appeared. That's the way it happened."

Clavell talks about the book as something over which he has little control. Once he has tested your assertion that you have read it, that is. "You've read it? All of it? What do you think of the last line?" Characters go their own way, and when they come to sticky ends Clavell engagingly insists he is as surprised as you are.

"That death frightened *me* to death," he says of an unexpected demise half-way through. "The number of people who ring me up saying 'You killed him!'. I say I didn't kill him, so-and-so killed him."

Clavell says that he doesn't plot his books, either. "I write it pretty much as you read it. Of course I may have to go back and change something because of what I have written later, but usually it just runs through. I always have trouble deciding when to stop. I didn't know how this was going to end until I got there."

This approach to writing would ordinarily be a nightmare for publishers, who like to have synopses up-front so they know exactly what they are getting and can settle on an advance. However, Clavell eschews advances and shows publishers his latest book only when it is finished.

"I don't make a deal in advance," he says. "I speculate. They don't gamble anything. I do. I've got my own 'drop dead' money so I write what I want at my own pace. When I finish it I let them read 200 pages. If they can't tell within 200 pages what it's about then they shouldn't be in the business."

He has reached this independent position after a postwar career of solid success. During the war, however, he never expected there to be a postwar for him. He joined the Royal Artillery at the outbreak of war after failing the Navy's eye test. In 1942 he was captured in Java and sent by the Japanese to the notorious Changi jail. "One in 15 survived Changi," he says. "I feel very fortunate to be alive."

After the war, he went to Hollywood, making a success as a screenwriter in the Fifties with films such as *The Fly* and *Watusi*, before becoming a writer-producer-director. His directorial achievements in the Sixties included *To Sir With Love* and *The Last Valley*, and his scripts, *The Great Escape* and *633 Squadron*.

He wrote his first novel in 1962, *King Rat*, based on his experience in Changi. It took 12 cathartic weeks to write and it was made into a powerful film — although he decided not to write his own screenplay.

"A couple of very successful scriptwriters said to me, 'If you write the script you're a screenwriter who has written a book. If you don't, you're a novelist. And as a novelist you can put a zero onto your writing fee.' The other thing they told me is that producers like calling long-distance — so my wife and I moved to Vancouver to bring the kids up."

He learnt to write when it came to editing *King Rat*. "The art of writing is rewriting. I wrote 850 pages and I had an editor in America who went through it line by line and taught me how to write tight. The first time you write a novel you go into ecstasy with the purple prose: how the clouds look, what the sunset is like. All bull. What happens? Who does what to whom? That's all you need."

The incredible success of his subsequent books and their television spin-offs have made him a wealthy man. He and his wife fly their own helicopters and have houses in France and America.

He is already at work on his next. "There's no such thing as a retired writer," he says. "We just go on and on." He accepts the bill from the waiter then looks at the tape machine on the table. "Are you sure that thing is on?"

● *Gai-Jin is published by Hodder & Stoughton at £16.99*

THEATRE

Older but no wiser

He Who Saw Everything
Cottesloe

AS THE programme reminds us, the Epic of Gilgamesh is the oldest work of sustained literature in the world. Its account of the flood anticipates the Noah story by 1,500 years, its hero is the prototype of muscular, impulsive, slightly stupid doers rather than thinkers from Hercules to Siegfried. The latest production in the National's Springboards season of new work presents a stage version translated from half-a-dozen ancient tongues by Robert Temple, whose work has embraced Daphne du Maurier, Rilke and Schnitzler, a popular history of Chinese science and lobbying for British Aerospace. In spite of which, universal resonance, immediacy and modern relevance are precisely what this play lacks.

The 16-strong cast, including some musicians, have the look of New Age hippies, in costumes that range from leotards and boots to shawls and bare feet, via a modern business suit and a matador's outfit. All are vaguely indicative of character. Of the six actors who impersonate Gilgamesh, for example, the matador takes the role in the episode where the hero kills the bull from heaven.

A ladder against the bare wall is a stark background for an instrumental ensemble that produces gamelan sounds throughout, the entire company joining in the musical finale. The characters tend to have names like The Refresher or The Great Queen (who "makes wise their feet"). Speed, movement and lighting all play their part in Tim Supple's production (two hours, 20 minutes, no interval), yet I was left uninvolved, detached and slightly puzzled by the whole exercise.

There are moments when the mood seems less Peter Brook epic than Bill Bryden mateyness: the ghost of the archly demotic *Mysteries* inspired by medieval religion reared its comic northern-accented head once or twice. A supplementary list of key characters and places thoughtfully provided admits the company is still trying to discover how the work can be "meaningful" and asks for our response. Not even television monitors showing nuclear mushroom clouds convinced me that the epic holds any special relevance for today, apart from providing an efficient showcase for right-on thesps.

MARTIN HOYLE

Recordings of Handel's operas were once hard to find, but in the case of *Ottone* there are now two fine versions on offer

Spoilt for choice between beauties

OPERA ON RECORD

Last time I contributed this column I also wrote about Handel. There does seem to be a lot of it about at the moment, for which we should be thankful. Now the unimaginable has happened. Where once, not long ago, you would be hard put to find any Handel opera on record, within a few weeks of each other two companies, Hyperion and Harmonia Mundi France, have issued recordings of the same piece.

The object of this extravagance is **Ottone**, first performed with a starry cast at the King's Theatre in London's Haymarket in January 1723, and quite a hit in its own time. For good reason too. The story is compelling (it comes, like *Figaro*, complete with a slightly confusing garden scene); and the music is beautiful.

Nicholas McGegan, currently in London conducting Handel's *Ariodante* for English National Opera, directs the Freiburg Barockorchester in the Harmonia Mundi version (HMU 907073.75, three discs), made immediately after a production in Göttingen.

He works in a more immediate, drier, more fitting acoustic than Robert King has with The King's Consort on Hyperion (CDA66751/3, also three discs). Consequently McGegan tends to get the crisper playing. But both conductors must be commended for the stylish affection with which they direct this marvellous piece.

Ottone is, even for Handel, unusually rich in lovely, heart-rending arias. McGegan, however, is severely hampered by his choice of the countertenors to whom in both recordings are assigned the roles of the principal adversaries Ottone and Adelberto.

Drew Minter, McGegan's Ottone, is limited in range of colour and dynamic, and when he ornaments he tends for some reason to descend beneath his natural falsetto range. King has the inestimable advantage of James Bowman in this role: there is no countertenor more credibly imperious, as Bowman has been proving ever since his first Oberon.

Ralf Popken, McGegan's Adelberto, sings with a more pleasing, more flexible vocal quality than Minter, but cannot compare with Dominique Visse on Hyperion, whose sharply focused tone might be a deliberate metaphor for the usurper Adelberto's ambitions and deceptiveness. He is certainly a far slyer character in Visse's hands, an insincere manipulator to the end.

The relatively brief role of Emireno, the pirate who is really Teofane's brother Basilio, brings the welcome sounds of a low male voice into proceedings. Michael George, for King, is perhaps less characterful and less powerful than McGegan's Michael Dean, though George's voice makes a pleasanter, rounder sound.

The competition between the female cast members is closer. McGegan's Teofane, Ottone's betrothed, is Lisa Saffer, and she just has the edge, I think, over King's Claron McFadden in terms of radiance of sound, though both throw considerable emotional power into the pot.

One has to declare an honourable draw between Jennifer Smith's Gismonda (Adelberto's mother) for King and that of Juliana Gondek for McGegan; both singers subtly combine ruthless ambition with an underlying maternal tenderness, though Gondek delivers the opera's most wonderful aria, "Vieni, o figlio", more slowly and thus more intensely.

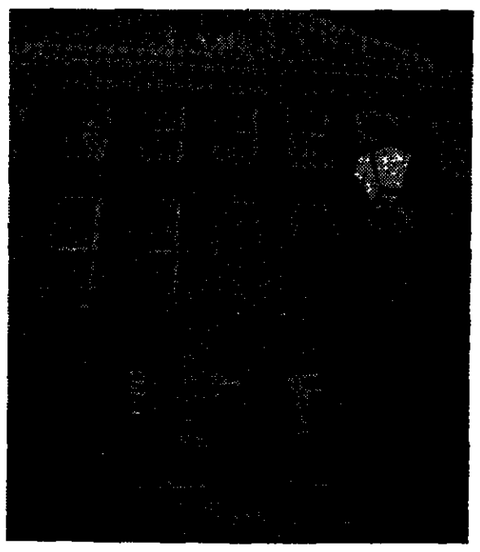
Likewise both Patricia Spence, for McGegan, and Catherine Denley, for King, give fine accounts of the mezzo role of Matilda, Ottone's cousin betrothed to Adelberto. They are remarkably similar in vocal character, though Spence's ornamentation and more generally concentrated approach — and this applies to McGegan's set as a whole — clinches it marginally in her favour. Both recordings are based on the first performance, but McGegan includes one or two extra arias Handel provided for the soprano Cuzzoni in the first revival in March 1723.

STEPHEN PETTITT

TRAVEL OFFER

Time to go Dutch

The Times invites readers to a luxury weekend with Albert Roux at the Grand Hotel, Amsterdam.

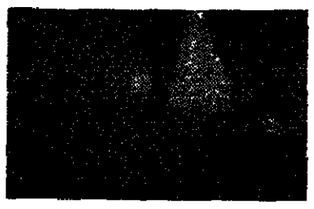


If you like exquisite food served in the splendour of an elegant, historic five-star deluxe hotel, you will thoroughly enjoy this superb weekend break, at The Grand Hotel in Amsterdam.

The building is steeped in history: originally the 14th century Convent of St Cecilia and St Catherine, it later became known as the Prinsenhof, or "inn of royalty", whose guests included William of Orange and Maria de Medici. Since 1991 it has been sensitively converted into one of the world's finest hotels.

During the weekend, you will be able to explore the pleasures of the hotel – including the heated swimming pool with jetstream – and more importantly, dine with Albert Roux. There will also be ample time to see the sights of Amsterdam.

We are making two weekend visits: the first Friday, May 29, and the second Friday, June 4.



INCLUDED ARE:

- Return flights on KLM between London Heathrow, Terminal 4 and Schiphol Airport, Amsterdam.
- Services of a local host.
- Full day excursion to Rijksmuseum Paleis Het Loo and Rijksmuseum Kröller Müller.
- Privately chartered canal cruise of Amsterdam.
- Cruise of the river Vecht.
- A gastronomic four course welcome dinner, including wine, in the Admiralty restaurant, hosted by Albert Roux.
- Two nights twin accommodation, with breakfast.

THE GRAND AMSTERDAM

COST (per person)

The price of £389 (single supplement £106) includes scheduled KLM flights to and from Amsterdam, airport taxes and transfers, accommodation at the Grand Hotel for two nights sharing a twin room, meals and wines as described above, canal cruise. Travel insurance is £11 per person.

Not included: items of a personal nature, such as telephone calls, bar and laundry.

TRAVEL HOTLINE
081 960 9066
Regent travel Services

To take advantage of this offer call the above number. Places are limited and all bookings will be accepted on a first-served basis.

Regent Travel Services Ltd ABTA C5278 ATOL 2738.



ROCK

Classy act, top marks

Nanci Griffith
UEA, Norwich



Nanci Griffith: Has the air of a schoolteacher

WITH her mixture of the formal and the friendly and with her earnest enthusiasm, Nanci Griffith has a touch of the schoolteacher about her. Certainly, neither she nor any of her eight-piece band would look out of place in the staffroom — even guitarist Frank Christian, with his beret and long hair, could pass as a Bohemian art teacher.

There was also an element of classroom formality to the way she introduced the songs that she has revived for her tenth album, *Other Voices, Other Rooms*, which made up the bulk of her concert. She has done her homework, though, gathering the 19th-century "Are You Tired of Me Darling?", less familiar songs by the famous (Bob Dylan's "Boots of Spanish Leather"), and fine tunes by the under-recognised (Kate Wolf's "Across the Great Divide").

They were all performed with reverence and respect. Acoustic guitars, and the occasional cello, wove delicate, understated patterns behind Griffith's assured voice or her harmonies with Lee Sattersfield and Maura Boudreau. Only John Prine's "Speed of the Sound of Loneliness" seemed to lose its pained beauty. Such rare lapses aside, this concert was still somewhat monochromatic. Because the songs reflected Griffith's taste rather than her moods, they tended to sound rather similar: the same dolorous, languid beat, the same gritty sentimentality of the survivor.

Only when she sang her own compositions — "Ford Econoline" and "Listen to the Radio" — would she let her voice go, bringing out its grainier edges where emotion and melody meet. The arrangements became less decorous. "It's a Hard Life" was set starkly against an electronic drone and tom-toms.

Though songs may be the focus of Griffith's performance, they are not the sum total. She loves to talk. With this show, there was less of the personal anecdote and rather more of the lessons in folk history, but she still found time to joke and reminisce. She even dedicated a song to Norman Lamont — and no, it wasn't one of Edith Piaf's.

JOHN STREET

Sailing from Cuba

JAZZ ON RECORD

A splash of cymbals, a dramatic burst of drums, an intricate and immaculately executed string of horn phrases. **Irakere's** enthralling hybrid of Latin jazz attracts full houses whenever the Cuban band pays one of its regular calls to Ronnie Scott's. In the confined space of this venue, with the musicians and their equipment squeezed onto the bandstand, the showmanship is all the more overpowering.

Originally an offshoot of the Orquestra Cubana de Música Moderna, the ensemble, whose name is Yoruba for forest, or woods, survived the potentially fatal defection of two of its star soloists — Paquito D'Rivera and Arturo Sandoval, both now resident in the United States. The expansive figure of Jesus "Chucho" Valdes remains at the helm, supervising what is, in effect, a miniature big band capable of appealing to jazz purists and habitués of the dance floor.

The brass section is in particularly athletic form on *Live at Ronnie Scott's* (World Pacific CDP7-80598-2). The rhythm section, as ever, is the key, adding buoyancy to even the drum solos. Not that there are many of these anyway. Even the ritual nods in the direction of more commercially viable jazz-rock are handled with rare conviction.

There are fewer digressions on the re-issue of *Misa Negra* (Messidor CD15972-2), a studio session from the mid-1980s. The centrepiece — Valdes's bravura synthesis of Cuban dance rhythms and West African chants and percussion — is a genuine, non-tourist example of that much-sullied term "world music". Valdes's setting of Dave Brubeck's "The Duke" — one of the staples of the groups repertoire — brings the set to an exuberant conclusion.

CLIVE DAVIS

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Back from the brink — our finest actor

"Thirty years ago, when Stephens played the Inca sun god in Peter Shaffer's Royal Hunt of the Sun, he honed his body to godlike perfection in the gym. Frankly, in 1993, he looks as if most of his energy has gone into hauling himself out of bed. His face is veined and baggy, his stomach bulges, he limps as the result of a hip operation. His voice is an exhausted rasp . . ."

Profile of Robert Stephens, 62, once touted as the next Olivier and who might at last prove it — in The Culture, The Sunday Times tomorrow

هكذا من الأصل

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ALBINONI Adagio PACHELBEL Canon
BACH Concerto for Two Violins
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PUCCINI GALA NIGHT
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Capriccio Italien Swan Lake (excerpts)
March from Symphony No.6 (Pathetique)
Romeo & Juliet Fantasy Overture
The Nutcracker (excerpts)
1812 Ov. with Cannon & Mortar Effects
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JOSE SEREBRIER conductor
BAND OF THE WELSH GUARDS
MUSKETEERS & CANNON
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Principal dancers from English National Ballet
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BARBICAN HALL 071-638 8891 9AM–9PM DAILY

Sat 22 May 7.30pm	LUTOSLAWSKI AT 80 London Sinfonietta, Witold Lutoslawski cond., Solveig Kringelborn sop., London Sinfonietta Chorus. Lutoslawski Jeux vénitiens; Siklos; Chantefleurs et chantefables; Chain 1; Trois poèmes d'Henri Michaux. *Shivetz Productions Ltd* £16 £10 £6
Sun 23 May 7.30pm	LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Michael Tilson Thomas cond., Vladimir Feltsman piano Beethoven Ov. Leonore No.3 Schumann Piano Concerto Strauss Ein Heldenleben *LSO Ltd.* £6 £9.50 £13 £15 £20 £28
Tue 25 May 7.30pm	ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Barry Wordsworth cond., Moray Welsh cello Smetana Ov. *The Bartered Bride* Sibelius Finlandia Tchaikovsky Rococo Variations Sibelius Symphony No.5 *RPO Ltd.* £22 £17 £13 £9 £6 £6
Fri 28 May 7.30pm	LONDON ORIANA CHOIR English Philharmonia Orchestra, Haberdashers' Boys Choir, Leon Lovett cond., Louisa Kennedy, Andrew Watts, Donald Maxwell, Gavin Monkloe soloists, Andrew West piano. Bernstein Chichester Psalms Gershwin Rhapsody in Blue Orff Carmina Burana *SPONSORED BY SOLICITORS WILDE SAPTE* £9 £18

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ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

Sat 15 May 7.30	THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC Resident at the RFH. *Klaus Tennstedt (conductor)* Mahler Symphony No.7 £16 £12 £7 £4 (ONLY) *Lon Phil*
Sun 16 May 7.30	*CLASSICAL GALA NIGHT* Inc. *William Tell Ov. Pearl Fishers* Duet. Pomp & Circumstance No.1 Bolero. Ride of the Valkyries. La Forsenal (Carmina Burana). Nessun Dorma. 1812 Ov with fireworks & laser display £21.50,£18.50,£15.50 £12.50 *Raymond Gubbay*
Tue 18 May 7.30	ENGLISH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA William Boughton (cond) Steven Isserlis (cello) Delius Summer Evening Saint-Saëns Cello Conc No.1. Bruch Kol Nidrei Op.47. Elgar Sym No.2 £23.50, £19, £15 £11 £7.50 £5.50 *ESO*
Wed 19 May 7.30	THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC Resident at the RFH *International Series.* Yakov Kreizberg (cond) Lucy Jeal (viola) Tchaikovsky Fantasy Ov, Romeo & Juliet Walton Conc Elgar Sym No.1 £20 £16, £12, £7 (ONLY) *Lon Phil*
Thu 20 May 7.30	*PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA Giuseppe Sinopoli (cond)* Barbara Hendricks (soprano) Mozart Serenade in C minor, K.388 Berg Seven Early Songs, Brahms Symphony No 1. *Philharmonia Ltd*
Fri 21 May 7.30	THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC Resident at the RFH. NatWest Classics for Pleasure Series. Matthias Bamert (cond) Lorri Blake (clo) Faure Masques et bergamasques. Martin Conc for 7 Wind Instr. Elgar Cello Conc; Debussy Lu Mer £9 £4 *Lon Phil*

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PURCELL ROOM

Sat 15 May 8.00	JACQUELINE DU PRE APPEAL Chagall Trio: Nicolino Kraamwinkel (vln) Tim Gill (clo) Julian Rolton (pno) Tristan Kauris Pno Trio (1st Brit perf); Dame Ethel Smyth Pno Trio (1st Brit perf.); Ravel Piano Trio in A min £8, £5 · Pamela Crowman

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Box Office 071-935 2141
Mailing List £6

Saturday 15 May 7.30 pm	DEZSO RANKI piano Piano Series. BEETHOVEN: THE LAST THREE PIANO SONATAS. Beethoven: Sonata No 30 in E Op 109; Sonata No.31 in A flat Op 110 Sonata No.32 in C minor Op 111 £12 £10, £8, £6 Hold
Sunday 16 May 11.30 am NB: starting time	DEZSO RANKI & EDIT KLUSON piano duet. Debussy: Petite Suite. Prelude à l'après-midi d'un faune 6 Epigraphes antiques. Ravel: Bolero Rapsodie espagnole £8 including programme & coffee/sherry juice
Sunday 16 May 7.00 pm NB: starting time	ELENA RIU piano SPANISH PIANO MUSIC. MOMPOU CENTENARY RECITAL Mompou: Impressions intimes Op.1, Scenes d'Enfants, Dialogues I & II, Musica Callada Book 1 Albeniz: Iberia Suite Book I; Granadas; Valses poéticos. £10, £9, £8, £4 *Audrey Elkon International Artists Management*
Monday 17 May 7.30 pm	LISA BEZNOSIUK flute BEETHOVEN STRING TRIO OF LONDON. *Early Music & Baroque Series.* Haydn: *Flute Trio Op.11 No.5* Beethoven: String Trio Op.9 No.1, Serenade for flute, violin, viola Op.25; Boccherini Flute Quintet Op.56 No.2, Mozart: Flute Quartet K285 £11, £9, £7, £5 Judith Hendershot Mgt/Sponsored by Calderdale N.A.
Tuesday 18 May 7.30 pm	ANNE SOFIE VON OTTER mezzo soprano, MELVYN TAN fortepiano Song Recital Series. Mozart: Songs: Schubert: Suleika, Der Zwerg, Die Liebe hat gelogen Der Gastelianz, Im Frühling, im Abendrot, Der Erlkönig, An die Musik. Haydn: Songs: Schubert: Canzonetta Arianna a Naxos ALL SEATS SOLD (returns only) Hold
Wednesday 19 May 7.30 pm	NIKOLAI DEMIDENKO PIANO MASTERWORKS. 5th of 6 recitals. *V: THE BAROQUE REVIVAL. Bach/Busoni: Toccata & Fugue.* Bach/Rakhmaninov: Partita; Vivaldi/Bach/Siloti: Organ Concerto. Handel: Suite No 9 Brahms: Handel Variations. £12, £10, £8, £6 *Sponsored by Lloyds Private Banking* Georgina Ives Associates
Thursday 20 May 7.30 pm	BENJAMIN SCHMID violin LISA SMIRNOVA piano Winner of the 1992 City of London Carl Flesch International Violin Competition. Beethoven: Sonata in G Op.30 No.3, Prokofiev: Sonata in D Op.94a, Brahms: Sonata in D minor Op.108 Ravel: Tzigane £10, £8, £6, £4 *City Arts Trust* Sponsored by the Corporation of London
Friday 21 May 7.30 pm	ENDELLION QUARTET, ARTUR PIZARRO piano. *Chamber Music Series.* Haydn: String Quartet in C Op.54 No.2; Bartók: Quartet No.2 Sz67; Brahms: Piano Quartet in G minor Op.25 £12, £10, £8, £6 Sponsored by Logica plc Hazard Chase
Saturday 22 May 7.30 pm	ENDELLION QUARTET, KALMAN BERKES clarinet. *Chamber Music Series.* Haydn: String Quartet in G minor Op.74 No.3 'The Rider' Bartók: Quartet No.3 Sz85; Brahms: Clarinet Quintet in B minor Op.115. £12, £10, £8, £6 Sponsored by Logica plc Hazard Chase

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"ASTONISHING" S Express ...brings the audience to its feet, and rearing its approval" D Mail
Eves 7.45 Mats Thurs 3 Sat 4

PLAYHOUSE 071-839 4401 Fax 839 8142 cc no fee: 497 9977/344 4444 Grps: 930 6123
"A ROLLS-ROYCE OF A FARCE" D.Telegraph
IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY by RAY COONEY
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MON-FRI 8 SAT 5.30 & 8.30
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PRINCE OF WALES 071 839 5972 cc (24hr/no bkg fee) 071 836 3464/071 344 4444 Groups 071 930 6123
" SHEER BRILLIANT FUN" FT
"A MUSICAL COMEDY MADE IN HEAVEN" The Times
" THIS ONE YOU HAVE TO SEE " S.Exp
CITY OF ANGELS
A New Musical by
Larry Gelbart Cy Coleman David Zippel
Directed by Michael Blakemore
Eves 7.30 Mat Sat 2.30
SOME TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE THIS WEEK

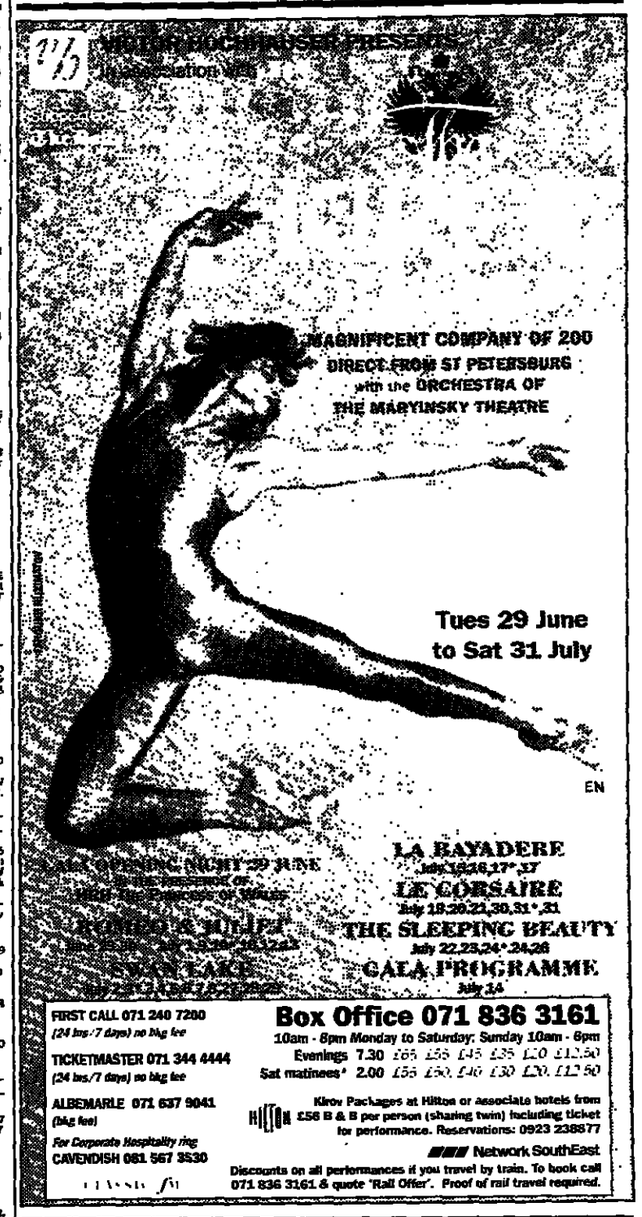
PRINCE EDWARD 071 734 8951 cc (24hr no bkg fee) 836 3464 / 071 344 4444 Groups 930 6123.
THE NEW GERSHWIN MUSICAL COMEDY
CRAZY FOR YOU
" IT'S A GREAT, GLORIOUS, GLAMOROUS GOLDMINE OF A SHOW " 3 Times
BEST MUSICAL
1993 Laurence Olivier Award
Eves 7.45 Mats Thu & Sat 3.00

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY LONDON 071 638 8891 cc Mon - Sun 9am-8pm)
BARBICAN THEATRE:
THE BEGGAR'S OPERA
Today 2.00 & 7.15
THE PIT:
THE SCHOOL OF NIGHT
Today 2.00 & 7.15
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON 0789 296623 cc Mon-Sat 9am-8pm)
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE
KING LEAR Tom't 7.30
SWAN THEATRE:
MURDER IN THE CATHEDRAL
Today 1.30 & 7.30
Meal/Ticket/Hotel package 0789 414999

ROYAL COURT 071 730 1745 /2554 cc 836 2428 (24hrs) 836 6122. THE TREATMENT "Wickedly funny" Ind On Sun. Eves 8, Sat Mat 4 Thurs Upstairs SEARCH AND DESTROY by Howard Korder Eves 7.30

SHAFTESBURY CC 344 4444 (24hrs) BO & CC 379 6399 Grps 379 5815/413 3321 No bkg fees
BEST MUSICAL
Evening Standard Awards 1992
KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN
starring Bebe Neuwirth
Jeff Hyslop, Charles Pistone
& Gladys Peters
Directed by Harold Prince
Eves 8pm Mats Wed & Sat 3pm
M.C.P. PARKING. Show/hotel deals on 081 428 0008

OPERA & BALLET



LA BAYADERE
July 16,20,17*,22
LE CORSAIRE
July 18,20,21,30,31*,31
THE SLEEPING BEAUTY
July 22,23,24*,24,26
GALA PROGRAMME
July 14

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THEATRES

SHAFTESBURY BO & CC 071 379 6399 CC 071 344 4444 24hr/bkg fee Grps 413 3321
" RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S MASTERPIECE " S. Times
CAROUSEL
'A joyous, brilliant & breath-taking production' Int Her Trib
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10 September to 26 February.

ST MARTIN'S 071-836 1443. Special CC No. 344 4444 Eves 8.0 Tues 2.45, Sat 5.0 and 8.0
41st Year of Agatha Christie's
THE MOUSETRAP

STRAND BO/CC 071 930 8800 (no bkg fee) cc 344 4444 (bkg fee)
MAUREEN LIPMAN ROSEMARY HARRIS
'A MAGIC COMBINATION' D.Mail
in
NEIL SIMON'S
LOST IN YONKERS
Directed by DAVID TAYLOR
"hideously funny, mortally sad... UNIVERSAL APPEAL" D Exp
Mon-Sat 7.30 Mat Wed+Sat 2.30
LAST PERFS TODAY

STRAND BO 071 930 8800 24hr CC 071-344 4444 (no bkg fee) Grps 071 413 3321/831 2771
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LEONARDO
A PORTRAIT OF LOVE
Directed by Rob Ritchson
Previews from 28 May
Opens 2 June at 7.00pm

VAUDEVILLE 836 9987/071 344 4444 Grps 930 6123/413 3321
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"THE BEST FUN TO BE HAD IN THE WEST END" D Mail
Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 5
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TRAVELS WITH MY AUNT
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THE GIFT OF THE GORGON
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Directed by PETER HALL
Mon-Sat 7.45 Mat Sat 3

YOUNG VIC 928 6363/344 4444 PETER EYRE SIMON DUTTON ESTELLE KOHLER JAMES WILBY in Kafka's THE TRIAL "Succeeds brilliantly" Ind Obs
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BBC1

7.00 Ceefax (5289196)
7.25 News and weather (1385221)
7.30 Children's BBC: Pinocchio (r) (5516844) **7.50 The All New Popeye Show** (r) (5596080) **8.10 The Girl From Tomorrow** (r) (Ceefax) (1296776) **8.35 Potsworth and Co** (r) (6702202) **9.00 Parallel 9.** Non-stop intergalactic fun. This morning's guests include Nick Berry, star of *Heartbeat*, Daniel Peacock from *Teenage Health Freak* and athlete Colin Jackson, not forgetting Dougal, Dylan and Florence from *The Magic Roundabout* (s) (12124757)
10.55 Cartoon: One Mother's Family (1059399)
11.05 Film: Sherlock Holmes and the Baskerville Curse (1984). The voices of Peter O'Toole, Helen Morse and Ron Haddrick add timbre to this American animation adapted, somewhat loosely, from the Conan Doyle classic. Directed by Eddy Graham (3607283)
12.12 Weather (8990467)
12.15 Grandstand introduced by Desmond Lynam, featuring live coverage of the FA Cup Final between Arsenal and Sheffield Wednesday. **12.20** Team News; **12.30, 1.15** and **2.35** Cup Build-Up; **1.00** News; **1.05** Gary Lineker: a look at his new career in Japan; **2.00** The F and A of the Cup Final; **2.20** Meet the Teams; **3.00** FA Cup Final, with commentary by John Motson and Trevor Brooking (83271776)
5.25 Cartoon: Droopy Triple Bill (Ceefax) (9152221)
5.50 News with Moira Stuart (Ceefax) and weather (942825)
6.00 Regional News (212221)
6.05 Jim'll Fix It. This week's "fixes" arranged by the ever-charitable Sir James include dolphin therapy for Alex, horse shoeing for Jessica, opening the Motor Show for Justin and playing guitar alongside the star of a musical for John (Ceefax) (s) (183221)
6.40 The Main Event. Chris Tarrant presides over the manic game show in which families compete from their own homes while linked with celebrities in the studio. Guest personalities are impressionists Mike Osman, Maddi Cryer and George Marshall, and cooks Gary Rhodes, Cheryl Baker and Glyn Christian (Ceefax) (s) (151888)
7.30 Birds of a Feather. Marks and Gran's comedy about prisoners' wives in Chigwell. Sharon wants to make use of Darryl's vote in the by-election (r) (Ceefax) (689)


UK entrant: Sonia with Terry Wogan (8.00pm)

8.00 Eurovision Song Contest. Live coverage of this year's international ditty competition hosted by Terry Wogan from the village of Millstreet in County Cork, Ireland. The UK entrant is Sonia, singing "Better the Devil You Know". (Ceefax) (s) (794196)
NB: subsequent programmes may run late
11.00 News and Sport with Michael Buerk (Ceefax). Weather (412496)
11.20 FA Cup Final Highlights (s) (418467)
12.30 Film: The Pit and the Pendulum (1961). Lurid 1960s chiller based on the Edgar Allan Poe story, with Vincent Price in wild eye-rolling form as the 16th century Spanish nobleman racked by self-torment over his wife's death. John Kerr and Barbara Steele are among the supporting cast. Directed by Roger Corman (Ceefax) (4850535)
1.50 Weather (2014603). Ends at **1.55**

BBC2

6.40 Open University: Managing in Organisations (9714196) **7.05** Maths: Curve Sketching (5286009) **7.30** Abortion — Whose Decision? (9720196) **7.55** Oceans and Climate (5517573) **8.20** Biology: Regulation and Control (1283202) **8.45** Utilitarianism — Lecture by Bernard Williams (6706028) **9.10** Atholdale — A Limestone Valley (1610776) **9.35** Elements Organised — The Periodic Table (2382080) **10.00** Velocity Diagrams (4227863) **10.25** Computers: Are You Being Served? (5338825) **10.50** Life Before Birth (5947937) **11.15** Banking, Money and Machines (6892860) **11.40** Industrialisation in Malaysia (2063689) **12.05** Mental Handicap: Finding a Voice (5428252) **12.30** Managing Schools — Improving Time Management (1835318) **12.55** Women's Studies: The Body Social (1203689) **1.20** Science: Jumping Genes (84710689) **1.45** Adult Education — This Sporting Life (25823405) **2.10** Poland: Democracy and Change (49343399) **2.35** A Bigger Europe for the Smaller Business: Competing Through Quality (5046573)
3.00 The Hoosegow (b/w). Laurel and Hardy in top slapstick form, running riot as prisoners who give the cook and the governor, among others, plenty of headaches (6494825)
3.20 Film: A Man for All Seasons (1988). Not the Paul Scofield classic but a worthy if somewhat plodding TV version of Robert Bolt's highly-regarded stage play about the breakdown in personal and political relationships between Sir Thomas More and Henry VIII over the latter's divorce and conflict with the Catholic church. Charlton Heston, Vanessa Redgrave and John Gielgud play the leading roles. Directed by Charlton Heston (86105775)
5.45 Late Again. Selected morsels from the past week's editions of *The Late Show*, the arts and media magazine programme (s) (923641)
6.35 Scrutiny. An in-depth look at the work of House of Commons select committees, presented by Nicholas Jones (Ceefax) (586318)
7.05 News and Sport with Moira Stuart. Weather (239283)
7.20 Nul Points: A Brief History of the Eurovision Contest. Among those expressing their views are Bucks Fizz and John Peel (r) (218776)


Labour party critique: Roy Hattersley (8.00pm)

8.00 Fight Again. See Choice (5689)
8.30 Have I Got News for You. Repeat of yesterday's edition of the irreverent and often very amusing news quiz. Angus Deayton is in the chair and guests Amanda Platell, managing editor of Mirror Group Newspapers, and comedy actress Meera Syal join regular contenders Paul Merton and Ian Hislop (r) (s) (4196)
9.00 The Second Heimat: A New Generation (German with English subtitles) (s) See Choice (5399)
11.00 Film: The Duellists (1977) (Ceefax) See Choice (223047). Ends at **12.45am**

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Fight Again: The Long Retreat
BBC2, 8.00pm

In a three-part series culminating in a studio discussion, Roy Hattersley offers his reflections on the Labour party's chronic inability to win general elections. The approach is autobiographical, with Hattersley recalling his childhood in Sheffield, becoming an MP during the Gaitskell era and then reaching the cabinet under James Callaghan. He traces the roots of Labour's troubles back to the mid-1970s and the IMF loan, which led to cuts in public spending, alienating the trade unions and sparking the winter of discontent. For a supposed right-winger, it is quite an indictment. Hattersley delivers his critique with eloquence, humour and a choice use of anecdote, backed by imaginative studio technology.


French hussar: Keith Carradine (BBC2, 11.00pm)

The Duellists
BBC2, 11.00pm

Ridley Scott made his name with Hovis commercials before entering the cinema with this version of a Joseph Conrad story about the long-running feud between two 19th-century French hussars. The biography is relevant, for television commercials are generally stronger on style than substance and Scott has tended to carry this impetus with him into feature films. *The Duellists* lingers much longer in the memory for its pictorial qualities than for its attention to plot or character. The duels between Keith Carradine and Harvey Keitel engage less on the human level than because they are an excuse for Scott and his cameraman Frank Tidy to indulge themselves in misty landscapes and sumptuous costumes.

The Second Heimat: Playing With Freedom
BBC2, 9.00pm

Edgar Reitz's epic of post-war Germany reaches 1962. Politics rear their head as police brutality is unleashed on a student protest in the streets of Munich. But, as always, Reitz is using public events as a framework for personal stories, drawing the contrast between state repression and the youthful urge for freedom. The question is what sort of freedom as students Hermann (Henry Arnold) and his friend Helga (Noemi Stueur) make their escape from Munich and embark on a sexual merry-go-round in her home town. Reitz handles the material with his usual intelligence and narrative skill. With 16 hours of screen time still to go, *Heimat* shows no sign of losing its hold.

The Brian Conley Show
ITV, 6.00pm

This is exactly the sort of brash and vulgar show that ITV loves to schedule for early Saturday evenings. Not so long ago the same slot was occupied by the Gladiators, purveyors of similarly raucous fare, and it is entirely fitting that they should turn up here in a guest spot. Whether singing, hoofing or essaying a stand-up comedy routine Conley is not the most subtle of performers and nobody could accuse him of trying to go above the heads of the audience. But if you like your entertainment loud and simple, and delivered in what has come to be called Thames estuary English, then Conley may be your man. **Peter Waymark**

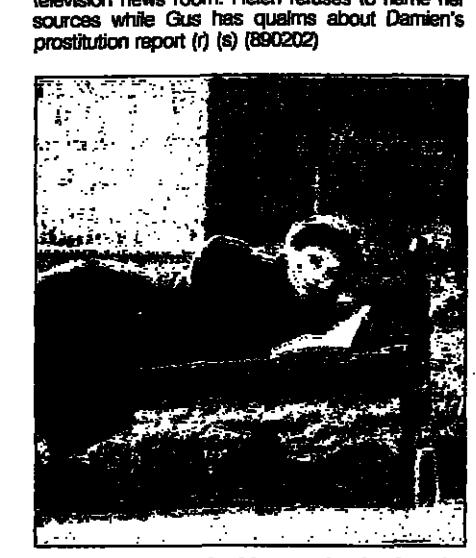
ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV (6054592)
9.25 Gimme 5. Music, facts and fashion presented by Lewis MacLeod and Jenny Powell (61517370)
11.30 ITV Chart Show. Music videos, with rock as the specialist chart of the week (r) (s) (43950)
12.30 Movies, Movies, Movies. Video releases (74776)
1.00 ITN News (Teletext) and weather (77241825) **1.05 London Today** (77240196)
1.10 Wanted Dead or Alive. Bounty hunter Josh Randall (Steve McQueen) finds himself the quarry of escaped convicts (62138486)
1.40 Film: The Dam Busters (1954, b/w). Michael Redgrave and Richard Todd are excellent in this taut wartime drama about the RAF mission to cripple Nazi industry by breaching Ruhr valley dams with Dr Barnes Wallis's "bouncing bombs". Directed by Michael Anderson (45854844)
3.55 WCW World Wide Wrestling (9346757)
4.40 ITN News and weather (8913399)
5.00 London Tonight and sport (5637080)
5.10 MacGyver. The dangerous assignment specialist faces the aftermath of a biological experiment when a satellite crashes (4686825)
6.00 The Brian Conley Show (s) See Choice (221)
6.30 Film: Police Academy 3: Back in Training (1986). Formulaic capers from the misfit trainee cops. Steve Guttenberg heads an undistinguished cast. Directed by Jerry Paris (Teletext) (17115)
8.00 The Bill. London police drama series. DS Roach is in trouble; Burnside tries to help (Teletext) (2115)
8.30 London's Burning. Firefighting drama. Josie braves the flames to rescue a pensioner after an arson attack (r) (Teletext) (17660)
9.30 The Big Fight. Live boxing action as controversial British fighter Chris Eubank defends his WBO Super Middleweight title against the new European champion, Ray Close from Belfast. Commentary is by Reg Gutteridge and Jim Watt (867554)
10.15 ITN News and weather (790950)
10.35 Film: Homeboy (1988). From boxing fact to boxing fiction, as Mickey Rourke plays an ageing pro slugging on against medical advice. Christopher Walken is the crooked entertainer who manipulates him. Directed by Michael Seresin (Teletext) (98063047)
12.40 The 291 Club. DJ Elayne hosts the second in the series of black music and comedy shows from the Hackney Empire. This week's guests include Leo Chester and Kreuz (s) (9212351)
1.40 The Big E. *European entertainment magazine* (s) (4041535)
2.45 Basketball: NBA Jam Session (800974)
3.45 The New Music featuring Ron Wood's album *Slide on This* (806158)
4.45 BPM. Dance music round-up (s) (5772662)
5.30 ITN Early Morning News (55993). Ends at **6.00**


Brian Conley, centre, and Gladiators (6.00pm)

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Wonderful Wizard of Oz (r) (s) (8875825) **6.25 Spiff and Hercules** (9761757) **6.35 Alfred J. Kwak** (9717283) **7.00 Paddington** (1366196) **7.05 Kid 'n' Play** (r) (3660738) **7.35 King Arthur and the Knights of Justice** (r) (9747863) **8.00 Betty's Bunch** (44047)
8.30 World Tennis (43318)
9.00 News (7175202) **9.15 Channel 4 Racing: The Morning Line** (7623573) **10.00 Trans World Sport** (67047) **11.00 Gazzetta Football Italia.** Paul Gascoigne previews tomorrow's matches (47283)
12.00 Wise Men. Final programme in the adult education series (s) (9878347)
12.15 Sign On: Passport Without a Country. Concluding half of an Australian documentary on children with deaf parents (209950)
12.45 Kasak. Pakistani drama. Sabrina (Rubina Ashraf) is on the run, living at a friend's house (Urdu with English subtitles) (208221)
1.15 Film: The Belle of New York (1952). Jolly MGM musical starring Fred Astaire as a turn-of-the-century playboy who falls for Salvation Army lass Vera-Ellen. Directed by Charles Walters (2077738)
2.40 Film: Silk Stockings (1957). A remake of Ernst Lubitsch's 1939 comedy *Ninotchka* with music by Cole Porter, this classic Fred Astaire vehicle casts the master hoofer opposite Cyd Charisse, who plays an icy Russian commissar. Directed by Rouben Mamoulian (Teletext) (34004776)
4.50 Sumodo. Wordless short film depicting preparations for a sumo match (8941641)
5.05 Brookside Omnibus (r) (Teletext) (s) (8825860)
6.30 Right to Reply. Sheena McDonald presents the programme in which viewers can express opinions about all our television channels (Teletext) (s) (115)
7.00 A Week in Politics. Vincent Hanna and Andrew Rawnsley round up political events (4660)
8.00 Adventures: Transantarctica. Second half of the record of a multinational dog-sled expedition (r) (Teletext) (4680)
9.00 The Beiderbecke Tapes. James Bolam and Barbara Flynn starring in the comedy-drama sequel to *The Beiderbecke Affair* (r) (Teletext) (5509)
10.30 Drop the Dead Donkey. Excellent comedy set in a television news room. Helen refuses to name her sources while Gus has qualms about Damien's prostitution report (r) (s) (890202)


Miou-Miou reads bedtime stories (11.05pm)

11.05 Film: La Lectrice (1988). The *Cinema Cinema!* season continues with this sophisticated erotic comedy starring Miou-Miou as a young woman employed to read to a variety of clients. Christian Ruche and Regis Royer are among the support. Directed by Michel Deville (697573)
12.55am Wise Men (as midday) (s) (2390622)
1.10 Evening Shade: The Moustache Show. In this episode of the American comedy series, Burt Reynolds sheds his famous moustache (4775055)
1.45 The Harp in the South. Drama series about Irish settlers in Australia (r) (8007264). Ends at **2.40**

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am Car 54, Where Are You? (77009) **6.30** Rin Tin Tin (62028) **7.00** Fun Factory (9657757) **12.00** WWF Superstars (25365) **1.00pm** Rich Man, Poor Man (19863) **2.00** Bewitched (7825) **2.30** The Facts of Life (6825) **3.00** Cartoons (22863) **4.00** The Dukes of Hazzard (93270) **5.00** WWF Mania (4252) **6.00** Beverly Hills, 90210 (25329) **7.00** Class of '96 (43844) **8.00** Unsolved Mysteries (52592) **9.00** Cops I (93234) **9.30** Cops II (75824) **10.00** WWF Mania (42115) **11.00** Entertainment Tonight (84738) **12.00** Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (63509) **6.30** News and Business Report (504660) **9.30** Nightline (18134) **10.30** *Financial Times* West of Moscow (63196) **11.30** Getaway (81134) **12.30pm** Fashion TV (32080) **1.30** The Reporters (40009) **2.30** Nightline (83931) **3.30** Those Were The Days (83202) **4.30** Getaway (7831) **5.00** Live at Five (88776) **6.30** Fashion TV (91950) **7.30** The Reporters (8660) **9.30** *Financial Times* West of Moscow (82863) **10.30** The Reporters (65937) **11.30** Fashion TV (58196) **12.30am** Getaway (11239) **1.30** *Financial Times* West of Moscow (88784) **2.30** Fashion TV (77722) **3.30** Target (88687) **4.30** *Financial Times* West of Moscow (17784) **5.30-6.00** The Reporters (84429)

SKY MOVIES PLUS

6.00am Showcase (37689)
8.00 The Last of the Secret Agents? (1966): Private-eye spoof (78689)
10.00 Treasure Island (1974): Animation (92196)
12.00 Safari 3000 (1982): David Carradine drives across Africa (51912)
2.00pm Caddie Woodlawn: A tomboy helps foil an ambush (33457)
4.00 Torn Apart (1989): A Jewish boy and an Arab girl fall in love (5844)
6.00 The Rocketeer (1991): Bill Campbell plays the comic-book hero (46931)
8.00 Narrow Margin (1990): Gene Hackman and Anne Archer flee the Mob (58776)
10.00 The Godfather Part III (1990): Francis Ford Coppola's gangster saga starring Al Pacino (58079738)
12.50am Dangerous Obsession: Erotic drama for adults (9305448)
2.20 Killer Klowns from Outer Space (1988): Alien vampires disguise themselves as a circus troupe (8203351)
3.50 Devil's Odds (1987): Beau Bridges and Bubba Smith investigate a drugs ring (5948210). Ends at **5.20**

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm Command Decision (1948, b/w): Second world war drama with Clark Gable and Walter Pidgeon (14711221)
5.55 The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp (1943, b/w): Soldier Roger Livesey re-examines his career (36941467)
8.00 The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas (1982): Dolly Parton plays a Southern brothel-keeper (32776)
10.00 The Enforcer (1976): Third in the *Dirty Harry* series (694738). Ends at **11.35**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.10am Duncan's World: Adventures of a boy and his raccoon (92265863)
8.00 Bravestarr: The Legend (1986): Animated space western (69931)
10.00 Clambake (1967): Elvis Presley musical (90738)
12.00 The Bad News Bears in Breaking Training (1977): Little league baseball drama starring William Devane (59554)
2.00pm Return to Paradise (1953). Gary Cooper meets a South Sea islander (31009)
4.00 Victim of Innocence (1990): Anthony John Denison searches for his Vietnamese daughter (3486)
6.00 If the Shoe Fits (1990): Modern Cinderella story starring Jennifer Grey and Rob Lowe (44573)
8.00 Men at Work (1990): Emilio Estevez and Charlie Sheen find the city commissioner's body in a rubbish bin (58318)
10.00 Point Break (1991): Keanu Reeves suspects Patrick Swayze of masterminding a series of violent bank robberies (57112931)
12.05am Return to Salem's Lot (1987). Vampire horror story (899535)
1.45 The Sheltering Sky (1990): John Malkovich and Debra Winger travel to North Africa in the 1940s (15027887)
4.00 Britannia Hospital (1982). Lindsay Anderson's black comedy starring Malcolm McDowell (672603). Ends at **5.45**

SKY SPORTS

6.30am Motor World (97738) **7.00** Rugby's Man of Steel Awards (12757) **8.00** European PGA Golf: Spanish Open (141115) **11.00** FA Cup Preview (21283) **12.00** Indy 500 Practice (53318) **12.30pm** Sports Special (71202) **1.00** Sports Saturday (4835318) **6.00** FA Cup Final: Arsenal v Sheffield Wednesday (36776) **7.30** US PGA Golf (70979) **9.30** PGA Golf: Spanish Open (84270) **11.30** Tennis: Italian Open (73080) **1.00pm** FA Cup Final (46603) **2.30-4.30** Ringside (29055)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Step Aerobics (30931) **8.00** Motorsport (84234) **9.00** Motorcycling (51950) **9.30** NBA Basketball (62554) **10.00** NHL Ice Hockey (36115) **11.00** Boxing (56979) **12.00** Karate (85405) **1.00pm** WTA Tennis (6770080) **5.00** Golf: Spanish Open (89979) **7.00** Kick Boxing (96950) **8.00** Free Style Wrestling (72370) **9.00** Boxing (82757) **11.00** WTA Tennis (53738) **12.30-1.00am** Truck Racing (91245)

UK GOLD

6.00am Jamie and the Magic Torch (5414115) **6.30** Michael Bentine's Potty Time (1574863) **7.00** Chocky's Challenge (4875739) **7.30** Owl TV (5320824) **8.00** Lassie (8021641) **8.30** Rentaghost (8020912) **9.00** Jem (8044592) **9.30** The Raccoons (2918641) **10.00** Defenders of the Earth (1565115) **10.30** Adventures of the Galaxy Rangers (8040776) **11.00** Film: Storm Boy (1976) starring Greg Rowe (5646298) **12.30pm** Film: Advance to the Rear (1964, b/w) starring Glenn Ford (91969047) **2.15** Bless This House (4703009) **2.45** EastEnders Omnibus (20527028) **5.30** The Chronicles of Narnia (4590738) **6.00** A Dorothy L Sayers Mystery (2937776) **7.00** Bless This House (4134757) **7.30** Streets Apart (4500115) **8.00** Bergerac (4849573) **9.00** Who Pays the Ferryman? (4836009) **10.00** Film: Harry and Son (1984) starring Paul Newman and Robby Benson (1423318) **11.50** KYTV (8427979) **12.30am** Mornin' Sarge (7903993) **1.00-2.15** In Concert: Neil Young (82931351)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am The Best of Jack in the Box (21370) **7.00** Storybreak (59824) **7.30** The Greatest Tune on Earth (24979) **8.00** Cartoon Classics (90863) **8.30** RatKan I (791134) **11.30** Cartoons (54349) **12.00** Marvel Hour (30711) **1.00pm** Pugwall's Summer (23689) **2.00** 3-2-1 Contact (5405) **2.30** The Barkleys (4405) **3.00** You Can't Do That on Television (4912) **3.30** Round the Twist (9950) **4.00** Electric Stringvest (83912) **5.00** Phoenix Hall (8757) **5.30** Fifteen (8221) **6.00** Fame (30775)

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 1.10pm Cartoon Time (75828486) **1.25** WCW Worldwide Wrestling (8984318) **2.05** The A-Team (5388221) **3.00-4.40** Film: The Strongest Man in the World (52125370) **12.40am** Hollywood Report (3041177) **1.10** Film: Ambush at Tomahawk Gap (3087968) **2.30** BPM (13974) **3.30** The Little Picture Show (25719) **4.30-5.30** The Big E (71968)

BORDER
As London except: 1.10pm Spanish Goals Extra (84727979) **1.30-1.40** Cartoon Time (59917221) **12.40am** Hollywood Report (3041177) **1.10** Film: Ambush at Tomahawk Gap (3087968) **2.30** BPM (13974) **3.30** The Little Picture Show (25719) **4.30-5.30** The Big E (71968)

CENTRAL
As London except: 1.10pm Nigel Mansell's IndyCar 93 (62138486) **1.40** Wheels in Sport (25801283) **2.10** Donald Loves Daisy (9360757) **3.00-3.55** The A-Team (2217757) **12.35am** Film: The Beasts Are on the Streets (139210) **2.25** Shannon's Deal (5335429) **3.20** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (34359332) **3.50** America's Top Ten (37641429) **4.30** Jobfinder (4203005) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (6603429)

GRAMPIAN
As London except: 1.10pm Telefios (62138486) **1.40** Am Fasach (3183973) **2.20** Police News (15974486) **2.25** Get Wet (49342660) **2.55** Dambusters! (5515047) **3.25-3.55** Nigel Mansell's IndyCar 93 (8952080) **12.40am** Hollywood Report (3041177) **1.10** Film: Ambush at Tomahawk Gap (3087968) **2.30** BPM (13974) **3.30** The Little Picture Show (25719) **4.30-5.30** The Big E (71968)

GRANADA
As London except: 1.10pm Spanish Goals Extra (84727979) **1.30-1.40** Cartoon Time (59917221) **12.40am** Hollywood Report (3041177) **1.10** Film: Ambush at Tomahawk Gap (3087968) **2.30** BPM (13974) **3.30** The Little Picture Show (25719) **4.30-5.30** The Big E (71968)

HTV WEST
As London except: 1.10pm Nigel Mansell's IndyCar 93 (62138486) **1.40** Film: Two Kinds of Love (23842009) **3.30** Cartoon Time (5160592) **3.40-4.40** Celtic Challenge (1288863) **12.40** Hollywood Report (3041177) **1.10** Film: Ambush at Tomahawk Gap (3087968) **2.30** BPM (13974) **3.30** The Little Picture show (25719) **4.30-5.30** The Big E (71968)

HTV WALES
As HTV West except: 3.40-4.40 Duathlon

MERIDIAN
As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 The Munsters Today (74776) **1.10** Nigel Mansell's IndyCar 93 (62138486) **1.40** Dambusters (25801283) **2.10-3.55** The A-Team (346850) **12.40am** The Big E (4945245) **1.35** Film: Vengeance Valley (902210) **3.30** Basketball (25719) **4.30-5.30** BPM (71968)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 1.10p,-1.40 For Real (62138486) **3.55-4.40** McCloud (9346757) **5.00-5.10** Tyne Tees Saturday (5637080) **12.40am** Beverly Hills 90210 (4954993) **1.30** Penn and Teller (8913871) **2.25** BPM (7295564) **3.25** The Little Picture Show (6112072) **4.25-5.30** Cue the Music (7974351)

ULSTER
As London except: 1.10pm Nigel Mansell's IndyCar 93 (62138486) **1.40-3.55** Film: North to Alaska (45854844) **12.40am** Hollywood Report (3041177) **1.10** Film: Ambush at Tomahawk Gap (3041177) **2.30** BPM (3041177) **3.30** The Little Picture Show (3041177) **4.30-5.30** The Big E (3041177)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 1.10pm Film: The Black Hole (3041177) **3.05** Cartoon Time (1787886) **3.15** Baywatch (7467450) **4.10-4.40** Nigel Mansell's IndyCar 93 (4929738) **12.40am** Hollywood Report (3041177) **1.10** Film: Ambush at Tomahawk Gap (3087968) **2.30** BPM (13974) **3.30** The Little Picture Show (25719) **4.30-5.30** The Big E (71968)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 1.10pm For Real (62138486) **3.55-4.40** McCloud (9346757) **12.40am** Beverly Hills 90210 (4954993) **1.30** Penn and Teller (8913871) **2.25** BPM **3.25** The Little Picture Show (6112072) **4.25-5.30** Cue the Music (7974351)

S4C
Starts: 7.00am Paddington (1366196) **7.05** Kid 'n' Play (3660738) **7.35** King Arthur and the Knights of Justice (9747863) **8.00** Betty's Bunch (44047) **8.00** World Tennis (22196) **9.00** News (7175202) **9.15** Racing: The Morning Line (7623573) **10.00** Trans World Sport (67047) **11.00** Gazzetta Football Italia (47283) **12.00** Wise Men (9878347) **12.15pm** Sign On (209950) **12.45** The Wonder Years (208221) **1.15** Film: Belle of New York (2077738) **2.40** Cwpan FA Lloegr 1993 (93620880) **5.05** Brookside (8825860) **6.30** Magic Roundabout (234365) **6.35** Now You're Talking (583221) **7.00** Newyddion (971757) **7.20** Hwyl Noson Lawen (355660) **7.50** Yn Dy Ddwble (234863) **8.20** Film: F Scott Fitzgerald and the Last of the Belles (?380/38) **10.05** Europa Express (174863) **1.** Drop the Dead Donkey (890202) **11.05** Film: La Lectrice (697573)

RADIO 3

6.35am Open University: Women in 16th-Century Europe — A Life Apart **6.55** Weather
7.00 Record Review: Paul Guinery introduces Dvořák (Symphonic Variations); Milhaud (Saudades do Brasil, Part 1): Bach (Suite No 1 in C, BWV 1066); Diabelli (Variations on a theme by Pierre Rode); Beethoven (String Quartet in C minor, Op 18 No 4); Sibelius (En Saga) **9.00 News**
9.05 Record Review continues with Richard Osborne. **Building a Library**, includes reviews of Mozart (Serenades for wind in E flat, K375, and C minor, K388); and reissues celebrating the 150th anniversary of Grieg's birth. **10.35 Record Release:** Edvard Grieg (String Quartet in F — unfinished: Norwegian Quartet; Six Songs, Op 48: Anne Sofie von Otter, mezzo, Bengt Forsberg, piano; Six Lyric Pieces: Leif Ove Andsnes, piano). **11.25** Bernard Keeffe on Teldec's reissues from the 1930s and 1940s. **12.25pm** Grieg (Piano Concerto in A minor, Op 16: Artur Benedetti Michelangeli; Orchestra of La Scala, Milan, under Alceo Galliera)
1.00 News 1.05 Schubert's Piano Sonatas: In the fifth of six recitals, Andras Schiff plays Sonata in E, D459; Sonata in A minor, D537; Sonata in A, D959. Including at **2.00** interval reading
3.00 Leonard Bernstein: Bernstein and Judaism. The fifth of ten programmes exploring the legacy of the composer, conductor and pianist. Bernstein (Benediction, Concerto for Orchestra, Jubilee Games: José Eduardo Chama, baritone; Israel PO); Bernstein (Halil: Jean-Pierre Rampal, flute); Paul Ben-Haim (David Before Saul, Sweet Psalmist of Israel: Sylvia Marlowe, harpsichord); Bernstein (Symphony No 3, Kaddish); Bloch (Schelomo: Mstislav Rostropovich, cello); Bernstein (Dybbuk, Suite No 2)
5.00 Jazz Record Requests, with Geoffrey Smith
5.45 Third Opinion: Frank Whitford discusses an exhibition of 20th-century American art in Berlin and a new catalogue of Marcel Duchamp's work
6.30 Malipiero: String Quartet No 1, Rispetti e Strambotti (Orpheus Quartet)
6.55 Ariodante: Live from the Coliseum, London: English National Opera Chorus and Orchestra under Nicholas McGegan perform Act 1 of David Alden's new production of Handel's opera. Sung in a new translation by Amanda Holden. With Ann Murray as Ariodante; Amanda Roocroft as Ginevra; Christopher Robson as Polinesso; Lesley Garrett as Dalinda; Paul Nilon as Lurcanio; Michael Druiett as the King; and Jamie MacDougall as Odoardo. **8.10** Producer David Alden, designer Ian MacNeil and translator Amanda Holden discuss their ideas and hopes for the production. **8.30** Act 2. **9.35** Mr Severs of Folgate Street, E1. Michael Oliver visits a house in Spitalfields, London, furnished for the 18th century. **9.55** Act 3
11.00 Impressions: Brian Morton plays records by musicians taking part in the first London Jazz Festival. Including Joe Pass, Bob Berg, Stan Sutzman, Nat Adderley, Marilyn Crispell and Gordon Beck **12.30-12.35am News**

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** The Farming Week: Tim Finney reports from New Zealand **6.50** Prayer for the Day **6.55** Weather **7.00** Today, incl **7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **7.20** Listeners' Letters **7.25, 8.25** Sports News **7.45** Thought for the Day **7.55** Weather **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Sport on 4
9.30 Breakaway visits Panama
10.00 News; Loose Ends, with Ned Sherrin, Annabel Giles, Craig Ferguson and John Hegley
11.00 News; The Week in Westminster
11.30 From Our Own Correspondent
12.00 Money Box, with Alison Mitchell
12.25pm The News Quiz, chaired by Barry Took **12.55** Weather
1.00 News
1.10 Any Questions? Nick Clarke chairs a discussion in Middlesbrough, Cleveland. The panel comprises Tim Clement Jones, treasurer of the Liberal Democrats; Dr Brian Mawhinney, health minister; Jane Reed, head of corporate affairs, News International; and Joan Ruddock, Opposition front bench spokesperson on home affairs (r) **1.55** Shipping
2.00 News; Any Answers? 071-580 4444. Ring Nick Clarke from 12.30pm
2.30 Playhouse: Runaway, by Michael Wall. The story of runaway Gail's bitter-sweet relationship with her father. With Jim Carter, Rebecca Cullum, Charlotte Coleman and Maureen O'Brien (r)
4.00 News; Ice Cream to Eskimos: In the last programme of the series, two of the three advertising agencies present their clients' accounts. Presented by Marcus Leigh
4.30 Science Now
5.00 The Living World: Lionel Kelleway searches for wildlife amid Liverpool's wastegrounds, demolition sites and abandoned railway lines
5.25 Tea Junction 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 News and **Sports Round-Up**
6.25 Week Ending (r)
6.50 Ad Lib: See Choice
7.20 Kaleidoscope: Paul Allen talks to the comedienne Victoria Wood as she embarks on an eight-month tour of Britain
7.50 Saturday Night Theatre: Seven Foot with a Wooden Leg, by Peter King. An adaptation by Gerry Jones of Peter King's semi-autobiographical novel about the life of a young man growing up in Cardiff in 1959. With Matthew Morgan as David, Gerald James as Trent
9.20 Music in Mind, presented by Brian Kay
9.50 Ten to Ten led by the Rev Michael Child **9.50** Weather
10.00 News
10.15 Trivia Test Match: Brian Johnston umpires another game of wit and general knowledge from Flitwick Cricket Club, Bedford. Taking the crease: Tim Rice and Willie Rushton, with William Franklyn and Paul Merton (r)
10.45 Nobody's Perfect See Choice
11.00 Richard Baker Compares Notes with the conductor Iris Lemare (r)
11.30 Dracula. Bram Stoker's epic vampire tale (r)
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.20** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW only)

Nobody's Perfect. *Radio 4, 10.45pm.*

Bank managers tonight take over the platform vacated by those GPs and estate agents to whom Neil Walker has already given the chance to defend their corner. Walker does not embarrass the managers by asking them to repent for the sins committed by others — like exorbitant bank charges and computer errors. But on the question of their treatment of customers, towards whom they *do* have a responsibility, Walker is strangely reticent. "Everyone says we're nice, don't they?", says one manager. "No", replies Walker, but he does not explain why not.

Ad Lib: Billingsgate. *Radio 4, 6.50pm.*

The fish porters who discuss their calling and stock in trade with Robert Robinson tonight clearly regard the occasion as a terrific public relations exercise. They put Robinson right about the cockles that taste to him like rubber-bands. They suggest he should change his tactics on oyster guzzling and acquire a new respect for the jellied eel. Thanks to *Ad Lib*, he, and we, now know that the correct time to fry squid rings is 60 seconds maximum. **Peter Davalle**

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. **4.00am** Neales James (FM only until **6.00am**) **7.00** Gary Davies with the Weekend Breakfast Show **10.00** Dave Lee Travis **1.00pm** Adrian Juste **2.00** Listen to the Banned: John Walters on pop censorship (1/3) **3.00** Johnnie Walker **5.30** The Saturday Rock Show **7.30** In Concert: Pop Staples, Terry Evans and Jumpin The Gunn **8.30** Loose Talk **9.00** Andy Kershaw: including an interview with John Storm Roberts **11.00** John Peel (FM from **12.00**) **2.00-4.00am** Lynn Parsons (FM)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Colin Berry **6.00** Barbara Sturgeon **8.05** Brian Matthew: Sounds of the Sixties **10.00** Anne Robinson **12.00** Hayes on Saturday **1.30pm** The News Huddlines (r) **2.00** Ronnie Hilton. Sounds of the Fifties **3.00** Steve Race **4.00** Eve Pollard **5.00** Cinema 2 **5.30** Nick Barraclough's New Country **6.00** Katie's Eurovision (r) **7.00** Edmundo Ros: Latin rhythms (1/5) **7.30** David Jacobs presents Easy Does It **8.00** Eurovision Song Contest: Ken Bruce presents live coverage from Ireland (with BBC1) **11.00** Martin Kelner **1.00-4.00am** John Terrett with Night Ride

RADIO 5

News and sport on the hour until Noon. **6.00am** World Service **6.30** Mark Curry **9.30** Get Set. **10.30** Hopalong Cassidy **11.00** Go! **12.00** Sport on 4 Plus 1 (as Radio 5 at 9.05am) **12.30pm** Sportscall **1.30** Sport on Five. FA Cup Football: the final between Arsenal and Sheffield Wednesday. Kick-off at 3.00; Cricket: Australian tourists v Sussex; Essex v Surrey; Racing from Lingfield: Oaks and Derby trials **5.00** Sports Report **6.05** Six-O-Six **7.30** Afropop Worldwide **8.30** Le Top **9.30** Nightbeat **10.00** Sports Bulletin **10.15** The Way Out **12.00-12.10am** News; Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** News and Press Review in German **5.00** Morgenmagazin; Tips für Touristen **5.30** Jazz Now and Then **5.45** Worldbrief **6.00** World News **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** World News **7.15** News About Britain **7.15** The World Today **7.30** Meridian **8.00** Newsdesk **8.30** People and Politics **9.00** World News **9.10** Words of Faith **9.15** A Jolly Good Show **10.00** World News **10.05** World Business Report **10.15** Worldbrief **10.30** Personal View **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News Summary **11.01** Printer's Devil **11.15** Letter from America **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **Noon** Newsdesk **12.30pm** Meridian **1.00** World News **1.10** Words of Faith **1.15** Multitrack 3 **1.45** Sports Roundup **2.00** Newshour **3.00** Sportsworld **3.45** World News **3.50** Sportsworld **5.00** World News **5.15** Sportsworld **6.00** BBC English **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.05** German Features **8.00** News Summary **8.01** Decra, Danger and the Devil **8.45** From the Weeklies **9.00** News **9.10** Words of Faith **9.15** Personal View **9.30** Meridian **10.00** Newshour **11.00** News **11.10** News About Britain **11.15** Jazz for the Asking **11.45** Sports Roundup **Midnight** News **12.05am** Words of Faith **12.10** Book Choice **12.15** A Jolly Good Show **1.00** Newsdesk **1.30** Play of the Week: The Ascent of Rum Doodle **3.00** Newsdesk **3.30** The Language of Flowers **4.00** News **4.10** News About Britain **4.15** Sports Roundup

CLASSIC FM

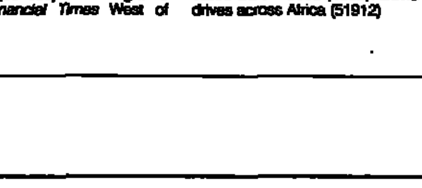
6.00am Sarah Lucas **9.00** CD Countdown **12.00** Petroc Trelawny **3.00pm** Adrian Love **6.00** Classic America **7.00** Opera: Donizetti (La Fille du Régiment) **10.00** Six of the Best **12.00-6.00am** André Leon

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Graham Dene **10.00** Chris Evans **1.00pm** Emperor Rosko **4.00** Dave Fanning **8.00** Kevin Greening **11.00** Tommy Vance **2.00-6.00am** Sandy Beach

RADIO 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m; FM-97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2:** FM-88-90.2. **RADIO 3:** FM-90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4:** 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6. **RADIO 5:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. **LBC:** 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. **CAPITAL:** 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. **GLR:** 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; **WORLD SERVICE:** MW 648kHz/463m. **CLASSIC FM:** FM-100-102. **VIRGIN:** MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. **COMPILED BY TERRY BENTLEY AND GILLIAN MAXEY**

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SUNDAY TELEVISION AND RADIO

BBC1

7.00 Ceefax (54603; *7.30* **Wiz Bang** (r) (s) (2571993) **7.40 Charlie Chalk** (r) (2568429) **7.55 Playdays** (r) (5595351)
8.15 Breakfast with Frost. David Frost interviews the week's newsmakers (181871)
9.15 In Touch with Healing (r) (1229036)
9.30 This is the Day Goes Coast to Coast. Judy Merry pauses at Farndale on the North Yorkshire Moors (s) (73177)
10.00 See Hear! Magazine programme for deaf and hard of hearing (s) (23245)
10.30 Deutschland Heute: Dresden (9964332)
10.45 Italianissimo (r)) (9969887)
11.00 Work is a Four-Letter Word (r) (s) (3697)
11.30 ***Business Matters: Levi jeans*** (r) (Ceefax) (4326)
12.00 A Cook's Tour of France: Burgundy (r) (Ceefax) (s) (53871)
12.30 Countryfile (1804448). Wales. Down to Earth
12.55 Weather for the Week Ahead (18170061)
1.00 News (77223429)
1.05 On the Record (1249719)
2.00 ***EastEnders*** Peter and Rose are back together but there are problems (r) (Ceefax) (s) (24974)
3.00 Film: Ocean's 11 (1960) starring Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Sammy Davis Jr. Danny Ocean (Sinatra) has a plan — to rob five Las Vegas casinos on New Year's Eve with a hand-picked team. Director: Lewis Milestone (83993)
5.00 ***Cartoon*** (9117158)
5.25 Masterchef with Loyd Grossman. Guests to judge the three contestants' entries in this week's heat entries are the newspaper editor Max Hastings and Pru Leith, the cookery doyenne (Ceefax) (3647887)
6.00 News (Ceefax) and **Weather** (782516)
6.15 Songs of Praise from RAF Scampton, where the *Dambusters took off 50 years ago today. Veterans* join in remembrance. (Ceefax) (s) (588429)
7.00 **Last of the Summer Wine** starring Bill Owen, Peter Sallis and Brian Wilde (r). Edward finds a piece of jewellery on him (Ceefax) (s) (7582)
7.30 The Inspector Alleyn Mysteries *starring* Patrick Malahide. Last episode (Ceefax) (s) (16565784)
9.10 A Year in Provence *starring* John Thaw and Lindsay Duncan. Final part. Who will be the new *Father Christmas? (Ceefax)* (s) (374784)
9.45 News with Martyn Lewis (Ceefax) and **Weather** (370061)


Magnus Magnusson and finalists (10.00pm)

10.00 Mastermind Final with Magnus Magnusson. The four finalists are: Glenys Davies (specialist subject, Napoleon III); Barrie Douce (French Indo-China war), Gavin Fuller (the Crusades); David Tombs (modern Olympic Games). (s) (111158)
10.35 Everyman: Whose Home is It Anyway? Two families in the former Yugoslavia are locked in conflict over land that both lay claim to (Ceefax) (920413). Northern Ireland. The Championship
11.25 Time of her Life: Time for Sex? First in a four-part series which looks at sex, health and relationships *as women reach their 40s and 50s (Ceefax)* (840448). Northern Ireland: 11.30 Everyman. Wales: Time of Her Life
11.55 Seabrook's Year. (r) (611158). Northern Ireland: 12.20-12.50am Time of Her Life
12.25am Weather (3929901). Ends at **12.30.** Wales: 12.25-12.55 Seabrook's Year

BBC2

6.15 Open University (94104871)
9.10 Thundercats. Cartoon (r) (7064142)
9.30 Jonny Briggs Mam makes her decision about the *rabbit, but that still leaves Jonny with a problem* (r) (2677603)
9.45 The Movie Game (s) (2388264)
10.10 Rugrats. Cartoon (s) (5237142)
10.35 Grange Hill. Part seven of the original series (6164264)
11.00 Blue Peter Omnibus (s) (1616622)
11.50 ***The O-Zone*** *with guests* Luther Vandross, Roland Orzabal and Chesney Hawkes (s) (8005719)
12.00 Around Westminster (51413)
12.30 Sunday Grandstand with Dougie Donelly. Cricket: Somerset v Lancashire from Taunton at **12.35, 1.50, 3.45, 4.35** and **5.25** (provisional times) with commentators Jonathan Agnew, Ralph Dellor and *Chris Broad. Motorcycle racing: Action from the* Heat Electric Super Cup at Oulton Park at **1.00, 2.40, 4.10** and **5.00** with commentators Barry Nutley and Roger Burnett. Motor sport: third round of the AutoTrader RAC British Touring Car Championship from Snetterton at **1.30.** Women's hockey. Ealing v Leicester — the AEWHA Cup Final *at Milton Keynes,* **3.05**. *Football: the Cup Final* winners return home in triumph (3745784)
6.30 Wildlife On Two: Oasis. The myriad creatures which depend on precious water (r) (993)
7.00 The Money Programme. Germany's key role at the heart of Europe is examined by Peter Jay. How far do current pressures influence Germany to consider its own interests first? (346790)
7.40 The Nineties: Pennies in Their Eyes. Forgotten *rituals of death are recalled by the elderly,* sometimes with humour. Death, they show, need *not be a taboo subject* (s) (635326)
8.20 Crime and Punishment. Start of a four-week season examining concerns about the workings of the criminal justice system. In the introductory programme, **Confessions**, seven people, from a *law lord to a police officer, describe how they have* seen the system fail. (s) (288500)
8.30 Inside The Wig. *See Choice (767784)*
9.15 Rumpole Of The Bailey. Welcome re-screening of the first-ever TV appearance of the crotchety barrister, introduced by his creator, John Mortimer (r) (2278210)


On trial: rape victim Jodie Foster (10.20pm)

10.20 Film: The Accused (1988) starring Jodie Foster and Kelly McGillis. A disturbing and thought-provoking film which brings an Oscar-winning performance from Jodie Foster as a gang-rape victim, attacked in a local bar, who determinedly seeks justice. Kelly McGillis is the ice-cool *prosecuting lawyer. Director: Jonathan Kaplan* (447516). Ends at **12.10am**

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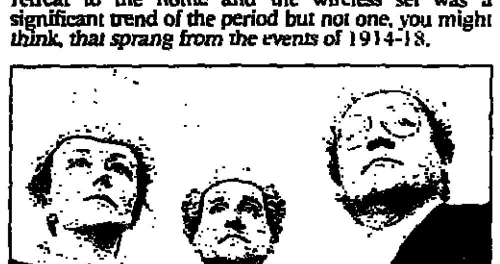
CHOICE

Jeeves and Wooster
ITV, 9.00pm

This is the fourth and sadly the final series of Granada Television's polished Wodehouse adaptations, and it *shows every sign of going out on a high note.* The Stephen Fry-Hugh Laurie partnership is, of course, *the cornerstone and as with David Suchet's Hercule* Poirot it is hard to think that the characters have been better cast. You could say that Laurie's twittering Bertie and Fry's deadpan Jeeves is one of the best television double acts since Morecambe and Wise. It is framed by an effortlessly stylish evocation of the Wodehouse world and supported by superb scripts from the *reliable Clive Exton. Tonight's story,* based in New York, lands Bertie in the usual quota of cleverly-plotted scrapes, with Jeeves on hand to get him out of them.

The Long Summer: After Mourning
Channel 4, 8.00pm

Alan Bennett narrates a six-part series on life in Britain between 1919 and 1939. Unlike the BBC's recent oral history programmes, *The Long Summer* is based not on the memories of ordinary people but on the glosses of academics. This gives it a more analytical thrust, concentrating less on events as such than the ideas they *signify. Tonight's film seeks to trace the impact of the* first world war and the brief is wide. It encompasses both direct effects, such as the flowering of memorials to the dead, as well as connections that seem so loose as hardly to relate to the war at all. The middle class retreat to the home and the wireless set was a significant trend of the period but not one, you might *think, that sprang from the events of 1914-18.*


In training: new recruits to the bench (BBC2, 8.30pm)

Inside the Wig
BBC2, 8.30pm

The first offering of the four-week *Crime and Punishment* season is a privileged look at the training of British judges. For the first time, so it is claimed, the *cameras were allowed to eavesdrop on the selection* and training of new recruits to the bench. The film focuses on a four-day crash course, conducted at an agreeable hotel where, encouragingly, most of the "students", order *The Times* with their morning call. They may look formidable once they don their wigs but there is much soul-searching in the meantime. It *comes out during exercises which require these* budding judges to match their decisions with sentences handed out in actual cases. It may be significant that the real judges tended to be tougher.

Wild India: Land of the Gods
Channel 4, 7.00pm

Given the Hindu belief that humans are reincarnated *as animals, no survey of Indian wildlife can treat the* subject as simply natural history. Despite its title, *Wild India* goes far wider than the conventional nature documentary. There is much footage of rare and exotic species, such as the Indian version of the crocodile and *the rhinoceros.* But with the animal and human worlds so closely linked, the religion and mythology of *the Indian people come in for prominent treatment,* and there are excursions into history and geography. The narration *lacks* the enthusiasm of a *Sir David* Attenborough but the wildlife photography is of the usual impressive standard. **Peter Waymark**

ITV LONDON

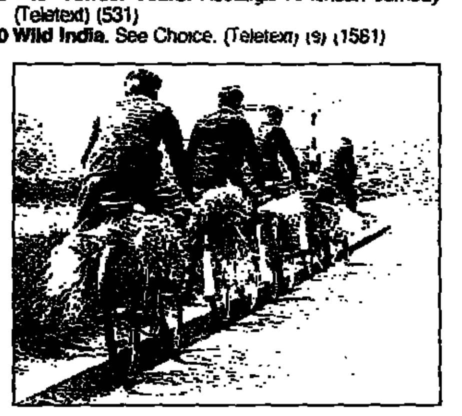
6.00 GMTV. Breakfast magazine show (s) (6021264)
9.25 Heidi Drama series adapted from Joanna Spyri's novel Heidi learns more about life in the mountains (1679429)
9.50 The New Adventures of Black Beauty. Vicky sees strangers loading barrels on to a boat (s) (2290055)
10.20 The Littlest Hobo Hobo lends a helping hand to a pair of teenage brothers (5220852)
10.45 Link *Four Aids sufferers speak out against the* medical profession (Teletext) (9881055)
11.00 Morning Worship with the Greek Orthodox community from the College of St Hilda and St Bede in Durham (71326)
12.00 This Sunday. Paul Heiney and Jenni Murray present stories with a religious theme (55239)
12.30pm Crosstalk. *Peter Allen's guest is Nicholas Scott,* MP (62061)
1.00 ITN News *(Teletext) and weather* (75805622)
1.10 Sunday Supplement. New current affairs series in which Edwina Currie analyses a different Sunday newspaper each week. Today *The People,* edited by Bridget Rowe, comes under scrutiny both for its news coverage and for its sports pages (criticised by former footballer Garth Crooks) (s) (5914500)
2.00 Mistral's Daughter. *Two part romance based on* the bestseller by Judith Krantz. A Jewish girl runs away to bohemian Paris in the 1920s. With Stefanie Powers, Stacy Keach, Lee Remick, Timothy Dalton and Robert Urich. Directed by Kevin Connors. Part two next Sunday (r) (54084993)
5.15 Gardening Roadshow. The team transform a *gloomy backyard and visit a woodland garden at* the home of Nanette Newman and Bryan Forbes (s) (4661516)
6.00 London Tonight with Fiona Foster (416061)
6.20 ITN News (Teletext) and weather (306603)
6.30 Watching. Romantic comedy starring Emma Wray and Paul Bown (r). (Teletext) (719)
7.00 Surprise, Surprise. Cilla Black offers more emotional reunions (Teletext). (s) (4069)
8.00 Heartbeat. *Amiable series set in the 1960s about a* London policeman transferred to the North Yorkshire moors. With Nick Berry and Niamh Cusack. (Teletext) (s) (2887)


Scrapes: Hugh Laurie, Stephen Fry (9.00pm)

9.00 Jeeves and Wooster (Teletext) See Choice (5351)
10.00 Aspel and Co Back on screen after a short break, Michael Aspel interviews Arnold Schwarzenegger, Sylvester Stallone, Bruce Willis and Demi Moore, *plus Melanie Griffith and Don Johnson.* (684210)
10.45 Spitting Image. New series of the wickedly satirical latex puppets (293535)
11.15 ITN News (Teletext) and weather (114535)
11.35 Faith and Music. A profile of wild rocker, Ozzy Osbourne, *emphasising his fervent belief in God* (s) (538871)
12.05am Cue the Music. *First part of a concert with the* award-winning singer Glen Campbell. Continued next Sunday (7723388)
1.05 Bachelors . . . Confirmed. Single people defend their rejection of marriage (r) (6680307)
2.05 ***TXT.*** *Music and chat* (6540271)
3.05 European Life. Magazine programme (29227009)
3.35 Snooker. European League action with Steve Davis and James Wattana (812630)
5.30 ITN Morning News (78920) Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.00am Trans World Sport (r) (5870264)
6.55 Spiff and Hercules Animation (8228852)
7.10 The Wombles. Cartoon inspired by the furry *inhabitants of Wimbledon Common* (r) (1357448)
7.15 Bunch of Munsch. Animated stories (5262429)
7.40 Sharky and George. Seacargo loses its colour (9711448)
8.05 Doug. Animation(1860784)
8.35 The Adventures of Tintin Tintin and Captain Haddock attempt to rescue Professor Calculus (6699784)
9.00 California Dreams More in the drama series about an aspiring rock band (39245)
9.30 Dennis. The mischievous lad strikes again (r) (2599871)
9.45 ***Flipper*** *Flipper is sent to Coventry* (948968)
10.15 The Lone Ranger (b/w). The masked hero *captures an evil Englishman (817167)*
10.45 Land of the Giants Vintage science fiction (r) (266516)
11.45 Little House on the Prairie Caroline Ingalls looks back to her first meeting with Charles (1972245)
12.40 Film: White Feather (1955). Western about the relocation of the Cheyenne Indians from their *Wyoming hunting grounds. Robert Wagner stars as* a government agent whose friendship with two *Indians is threatened when a squaw* (Debra Paget) falls in love with him. Sensitively directed by Robert Webb (99019603)
2.35 Elsa Short film about a chauvinistic marriage in the countryside (5833993)
2.45 Football Italia. The matches today are Lazio v Ancona, Inter v Genoa and Juventus v Parma *(34989413)*
5.00 The Extinct World of Gloves Unusual puppet animation by Jiri Barta about the discovery of a civilisation (9037968)
5.25 News Summary and weather (8357516)
5.30 The Next Big Thing. FMB, the indie band from Stoke Newington, are still trying hard to get a record *deal (s) (968)*
6.00 Moviewatch. Hull cinema-goers review *I Was on Mars, Nowhere to Run* and *Mistress.* Also included is an interview with the Oscar-winning actress Marisa Tomei (s) (581)
6.30 The Wonder Years. Nostalgic American comedy (Teletext) (531)
7.00 Wild India. See Choice. (Teletext) (s) (1561)


Pedal power: bikers between the wars (8.00pm)

8.00 The Long Summer. *See Choice. (Teletext) (2500)*
8.30 Street Legal. Topical magazine reporting on Britain's legal system. With Patricia Hewitt (4535)
9.00 Film: Moscow on the Hudson (1984). The season of Robin Williams films continues to surprise. In Paul *Mazursky's warm-hearted comedy Williams is in the* unlikely role of a Russian saxophonist defecting to *New York. (Teletext)* (85404500)
11.15 Red Empire. Series tracing the history of the former Soviet Union, today interviewing people who lived through the second world war (r) (538806)
12.20am Film: Les Enfants du Plage Perdu (1991). *Award-winning film from Mali about a retarded* young woman who becomes pregnant after being *seduced by a taxi driver. With* Souad Ferhati and Mohamed Timod. Directed by Jilali Ferhati. With English subtitles (376765) Ends at **1.55**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 9.25am Bugs Bunny (9218887) **10.05-10.15** Cartoon Time (5332055) **12.30pm-12.55** Countrywide (1899516) **2.00** Faith and Music (7622) **2.30** Cartoon Time (8130177) **2.45** Dambusters! (216871) *3.15 Film: The Dam Busters* (449332) **5.15** Cartoon Time (5623887) **5.30** Bullseye (326) *6.00-6.20 Anglia News* (416061) **11.35** It's a Living (538871) **12.05am** *Quiz Night* (8739611) **12.35** Mistral's Daughter (230524) **2.25** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (2834104) **2.50** The New Music (9542678) **3.50** Entertainment UK (1245272) **4.45** America's Top Ten (12494) **5.15-5.30** Jobfinder (4392122)
America's Top Ten (12494)

CENTRAL

As London except: 9.25am Bugs Bunny (9218887) **10.05-10.15** Cartoon Time (5332055) **12.30pm-12.55** Central Newsweek (1899516) **2.00** Take 15 (12212535) **2.15** Dambusters! (217500) **2.45** The Central Match (74337784) **5.05** Wanted Dead or Alive (9038697) **5.30-6.15** Highway to Heaven (541167) **12.05am** Prisoner Cell Block H (7735123) *1.00 Riviera* (74814) **2.00** ITV Chart show (2140415) **2.55** *Cue the Music* (9541949) *4.10 Jobfinder* (2385299) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye

GRANADA

As London except: 9.25am-10.15 Film: Pippi Longstocking (7516239) **12.25pm-1.00** Chelle Chelle (7638245) **2.00** The Granada Match (93929429) **4.45** Coronation Street (161622) **5.45-6.15** Strictly Classified (929448) **12.05am** Quiz Night (8739611) **12.35** Mistral's Daughter (230524) **2.25** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (2834104) **2.50** The New Music (9542678) **3.50** Entertainment UK (1245272) **4.45** America's Top Ten *(12494) 5.15-5.30 Jobfinder* (4392122)

HTV WEST

As London except: 9.25am-10.15 Film: A Mother's Courage (7516239) **12.30pm-1.00** Playback (62061) **2.00** Faith and Music (7622) **2.30** The West Match (39481806) **5.15-6.05** Superstars of Wrestling (4589968) **11.35** Brewhouse Jazz (538871) **12.05am** Quiz Night (8739611) **12.35** Mistral's Daughter (230524) **2.25** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (2834104) **2.50** The New Music (9542678) **3.50** Entertainment UK (1245272) **4.45** America's Top Ten (12494) *5.15-5.30* Jobfinder (4392122)

HTV WALES

As HTV West except: 12.30pm-1.00 HTV Newsweek **5.15** Superstars of Wrestling *6.05-6.15 Cartoon Time*

MERIDIAN

As London except: 9.25am Bugs Bunny (9218887) **10.05-10.15** Cartoon (5332055) **12.30pm-12.50** Meridian This Week (1184500) **2.00** Faith and Music (7622) **2.30** Film: The Dam Busters (74429719) **4.50** Life Goes On (5983784) **5.45-6.15** Fit To Win (929448) **11.35** Film Twice in a Lifetime (125897) **1.35** ITV Chart Show (391475) **2.35** Kojak **3.30** Derrick (7631036) **4.40** *Out of Limits* (74383104) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (63659)

TYNE TEES

As London except: 9.25am Film. Disney's Parent Trap IV (7516239) **10.15-10.45** The *New Adventures of Black Beauty* (753235) **12.25pm-12.50** The Littlest Hobo (5228054) **2.00** Faith and Music (7622) **2.30** Film: Perfect Gentlemen (49634992) **4.20** Life Goes On (2195239) **5.20** Dambusters! (9033142) **5.50-6.20** Tyne Tees Weekend (917974) **11.35** Trials of Rose O'Neill (134429) **12.30** Quiz Night (49920) **1.00** The Beat (74814) **2.00** Zara Dhyan Den (4485543) **2.05** Film: Kanmarial (44745524) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (63659)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 9.25am Bugs Bunny (9218887) **10.05-10.15** Cartoon (5332055) **12.30pm-12.55** Westcountry Update (1899516) **2.00** Faith and Music (7622) **2.30** Film: The Dam Busters (74332239) **4.45** Dambusters! (923264) **5.15** Brief Encounters (920177) **5.45-6.15** Heart of the Country (929448) **11.35** Married With Children (538871) **12.05am** Quiz Night (8739611) **12.35** Mistral's Daughter **2.25** Cinema, Cinema (2834104) **2.50** The New Music (9542678) **3.50** Entertainment UK (1245272) **4.45** America's Top Ten (12494) **5.15-5.30** Jobfinder (4392122)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 9.25am Film: Disney's Parent Trap IV (7516239) **10.15-10.45** The *New Adventures of Black Beauty* (753235) **12.25pm** The Littlest Hobo (5228054) **2.00** Faith and Music (7622) **2.30** Film: Perfect Gentlemen (49634992) **4.20** Life Goes On (2195239) **5.20** Dambusters! (9033142) **5.50-6.20** Calendar (917974) **11.35** Trials of Rose O'Neill (134429) **12.30am** Quiz Night (49920) **1.00** The Beat (74814) **2.00** Zara Dhyan Den (4485543) **2.05** Film: Taaqatwar (44745524) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (63659)

S4C

Starts: 7.10am As Channel 4 **12.45pm** Mork and Mindy (307177) *1.15 Eerie, Indiana* (397790) **1.45** Defenders of the Wild (445581) **2.45** Football Italia (34989413) **5.00** Dechrau Canu Dechrau Canmol (6516) **5.30** Pobol Y Cwm (14702719) **7.15** Fe Hoffwn i (835055) **7.45** Hel Straeon (834326) **8.15** Dalgariad Gan Gwynne Howell (109142) **8.50** Seith Diwrnod Ar Y Sul (346603) **9.05** Pel-Droed Cwpan Cymru 1993 (863061) **9.35** True Stones (2284871) **11.05** Joe Cocker (524993) **12.05am** ENG (7733765)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am Hour of Power (68993) **7.00** Fun *Factory* (5722429) *11.30 The Brady Bunch* (1632) **12.00** WWF Challenge (71090) **1.00pm** *Robin of Sherwood* (18210) **2.00** The Love Boat (64516) **3.00** Xposure (3061) **3.30** Fashion TV (2871) **4.00** UK Top 40 (33055) **5.00** All American Wrestling (1413) **6.00** The Simpsons (71054) **7.00** The Young Indiana Jones Chronicles (55719) **8.00** *Monte Carlo:* First of a two-part mini series starring Joan Collins, George Hamilton and Lauren Hutton (62055) **10.00** Hill Street Blues (47790) **11.00** Wiseguy (90103) **12.00** Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS

News on the hour
6.00am Sunrise (87516) **6.30** News and Business Report (612264) **9.30** Frost on Sunday (21719) **11.30** National Gallery (90581) **12.30pm** *Financial Times Reports* (60993) **1.30** Target (61622) **2.30** Roving Report (95806) **3.30** The Lords (97535) **4.30** Memories of 1970-1991 (1332) **5.00** Live at *Five* (52061) **8.30** *Roving Report* (89087) **7.30** *Financial Times* Reports (2061) **9.30** *Target* (81210) **10.30** Roving Report (80992) **11.30** ABC News (60061) **12.30am** Those Were The Days (16814) **1.30** ABC News (75302) **2.30** Target (22307) **3.30** ABC News (94524) **4.30** The National Gallery (11340) **5.30-6.00** Beyond 2000 (64794)

SKY MOVIES PLUS

6.00am Showcase (25974)
8.00 Barquero! (1970): Warren Oates commandeers Lee Van Cleef's ferry (82968)
10.00 Stroker Ace (1983): Burt Reynolds as a racing car driver (24871)
12.00 Triumph of the Heart (1991): Athlete Mario Van Peebles befriends handicapped Lane Davis (78719)
2.00pm Body Slam (1987). Dirk Benedict promotes Rowdy Roddy Piper as a wrestling rock 'n' roll star (617581)
3.50 Krull (1983): Ken Marshall comes to the rescue of Lysette Anthony (58616429)
5.00 Mr Destiny (1990): Michael Caine gives James Belushi the chance to live another life (58906)
8.00 Dogfight (1992): Romantic drama starring River Phoenix, who dates ugly duckling Lili Taylor (86581)
9.30 Xposure Film news (21577)
10.00 ***Midnight Fear*** *(1991): A terrified August West seeks the help of drunk policeman David Carradine* (94806)
11.30 Catchfire (1990): Hitman Dennis Hopper falls in love with his quarry, Jodie Foster (910852)
1.10am Bloodfist III — Forced to Fight (1991): Kick-boxing drama (2413369)
2.35 Meet the Applegates (1990). Ed Begley Jr and Stockard Channing head a family of giant Brazilian insects (6415185)
4.05 Patti Rocks (1988) Male chauvinists *John Jenkins and Chris Mulkey hit the road* (3662291). Ends at **5.30**

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm Anna Karenina (1948, b/w): Vivien Leigh and Ralph Richardson star in this adaptation of Tolstoy's classic (83261210)
6.25 Comanche Station (1960) Randolph Scott buys the freedom of a captive white woman (84751968)
8.00 Airplane II: The Sequel (1982). Spoof of disaster films (28603)
10.00 Deliverance (1972). Hillbillies track a group of businessmen. Starring Jon Voight (993245). Ends at **11.55**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Alice Through the Looking Glass Animation of Lewis Carroll's story (23516)
8.00 The Little Marines *(1990): Children's* camping adventure (73210)
10.00 ***Wives and Lovers*** *(1963). Comedy* about infidelity. Starring Van Johnson and Janet Leigh (22423)
12.00 Gawain and the Green Knight (1973): Murray Head stars in the supernatural Arthurian legend (69061)
2.00pm Guilty by Suspicion (1990) Film director Robert De Niro becomes involved in the 1950s communist witch-hunt (63784)
4.00 Beauty and the Beast (1963) Fairytale *starring* Joyce Taylor (7887)
6.00 Stella (1989) Bartender Bette Midler attempts to raise daughter Trini Alvarado single-handedly (56448)
8.00 Bird on a Wire (1990): FBI witness Mel *Gibson and former girlfriend* Goldie Hawn flee the Mob (51993)
10.00 Thelma and Louise (1991) Geena Davis and Susan Sarandon embark on a crime spree (59248581)
12.15am Cold Justice (1990) Dennis Waterman plays a Chicago priest (935307)
2.10 Skidoo (1968). Gangster comedy starring Jackie Gleason, Mickey Rooney and Groucho Marx (923659)
4.00 French Postcards (1979): Romantic *comedy* (56217) *Ends at* **5.30**

SKY SPORTS

6.30am Sports Special (16993) **7.00** Rugby *League Academy* (96326) *8.30 Red Line* (78177) **9.30** FA Cup Final Arsenal v Sheffield Wednesday (46500) **11.00** The Premiership Finals (2323784) **6.00** Indy 500 Practice (2239) **6.30** European PGA Golf: Spanish Open (845245) **9.00** US PGA Golf (84546) **11.00** Tennis: Italian Open (39090) **1.00-1.30am** Indy 500 Practice (85982)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Step Aerobics (42806) **8.00** WTA Tennis (79545) **9.30** Mountain Biking (81719) *10.00* Boxing (31790) *11.00 Motorcycling* (5216413) **3.00pm** WTA Tennis Ladies Final *(89577) 5.00 Golf: Spanish Open* (8581) **6.00** Table Tennis (97326) **7.00** Free Style *Wrestling* (82887) **8.00** DTM German Touring Cars (91535) **9.00** Motorcycling. Austrian Grand Prix (94622) **11.00-12.30am** WTA Tennis (67061)

UK GOLD

6.00am Jamie and the Magic Torch (5481887) **6.30** Michael Bentine's Potty Time (1541535) *7.00 Deke Wilson's Mini Mysteries* (7629451) **7.30** Owl TV (9625036) **8.00** *Lassie (8925413) 8.30 Rentaghost* (8924784) **9.00** Dr Who Omnibus: Ambassadors of Death (37363697) **10.50** Film: Blue Fin (1978) starring Hardy Kruger and Greg Rowe (95787245) **12.30pm** Film. Signpost to Murder (1964, b/w) starring Joanne Woodward and Stuart Whitman (2305603) **2.00** Bless This House (4027413) **2.30** Sharon and Elsie (4589622) **3.00** The Bill Omnibus (1811429) *5.30 Stalky and Co* (4487210) **6.00** The District Nurse (2904448) *7.00 Sorry! (4101429) 7.30 Sharon and Elsie* (4577887) **8.00** A Horseman Riding By (4816245) **9.00** *Film: The Year of Living* Dangerously (1983) starring Mel Gibson and Sigourney Weaver (4819332) **11.00** Life Without George (6214055) **11.30** Colin's Sandwich (1458871) **12.00-2.00am** In Concert. Marky Mark (8872340)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am The Best of Jack in the Box (31887) **7.00** Commander Crumbcake (17719) **7.30** The Greatest Tune on Earth (23326) **8.00** Cartoons (88158) **8.30** RatKan II (703500) *11.30 Cartoon Classics* (18326) **12.00** Marvel Hour (11974) **1.00pm** Okavango (20622) **2.00** 3-2-1 Contact (3528) **2.30** The Berklays (9968) **3.00** Chicken Minute (5603) **3.30** Round the Bend (4413) **4.00** Runaway Ralph (81457) **5.00** Katts and Dog (7448) **5.30** Fifteen (3784) **6.00-7.00** Fame (17158)

RADIO 3

6.35am Open University: Assignment 103 **6.55** Weather
7.00 BBC Symphony Orchestra in Japan: Live from the Festival Hall, Osaka, Andrew Davis conducts Rachmaninov (Piano Concerto No 2 in C minor: Michie Koyama). **7.40** Uta. Alison Waley reads and discusses the Japanese *Uta* poems, translated by her husband, Arthur Waley. **8.00** Berlioz (Symphonie fantastique) **9.10 News**
9.15 Brian Kay's Sunday Morning: Albinoni (Adagio in G minor); Sullivan (Overture di Ballo); Bach, orch Elgar (Fantasia and Fugue in C minor), Trad (Svatba, *The* Wedding; Polegnala e Todora, Love chant); Bach (Oboe Concerto in F, BWV 1053). **10.19** Artists of the week: The Songmakers' Almanac performs Balfe (*Trust Her Not*) and Sullivan (Coming Home), Strauss (Till Eulenspiegels Lustige Streiche). **10.46** *Composer of the Week* preview: Liszt (Tarantelles napolitaines, Venezia e Napoli); Mozart (A Musical Joke, K522); Schumann (Unterm Fenster, Op 34 No 3); Brahms (Abendlied, Op 92 No 3); Tchaikovsky (The Sleeping Beauty, Prologue)
12.00 Spirit of the Age: Staging Baroque Opera. George Pratt *presents a discussion on* whether operas written three centuries *ago can still appeal* to modern audiences
1.00pm News
1.05 Table Talk in the Sixties Butty Talk. Leslie Forbes *talks* to Mike McCartney and Adrian Henri about what the people of Liverpool ate in the 1960s
1.20 BBC Welsh SO under Tadaaki Otaka performs Sibelius (Finlandia); Chopin *(Piano Concerto* No 2 in F minor: Dmitri Alexeev), Elgar (Symphony No 1 in A flat)
2.55 Emerson Quartet performs Schubert (String Quartet in A minor, D804); Haydn (String Quartet in D, Op 64 No 5, *The* Lark), Bartók (String Quartet No 5)
4.25 Early Music from Regensburg: Bach Solo Cantatas. American Bach Soloists of San Francisco sing Cantatas No 199, Mein Herze *schwimmt im Blut;* No 55, Ich armer Mensch, ich *Sündenknecht;* No 54, Widerstehe doch der Sünde: *No 82, Ich habe genug*
5.50 BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra *under* Jerzy Maksymiuk performs Szymanski (A Study of Shade): Lutoslawski (Piano Concerto: *Paul Crossley*)
6.30 Piano Trios: Golub Kaplan *Carr Trio performs* Haydn (Piano Trio in C, H XV 27): Nicholas Maw (Piano Trio) (r)
7.30 Sunday Play: Early Morning. *See Choice*
9.30 London Symphony Orchestra under Michael Tilson Thomas performs Sibelius (Violin Concerto in D minor: Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg); Mahler (Symphony No 1). Including at **10.05** Interval Reading. Given earlier this evening in the Barbican Hall, London
11.20 Music In Our Time: Brian Morton *introduces* a recording of an invitation concert given *earlier* this year by the improvising group AMM. With *Eddie Prevost,* percussion, Keith Rowe, guitar and *electronics,* John Tilbury, piano, and Rohan de Saram, cello
12.30-12.35am News

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping **6.00** News, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Prelude **6.30** News; Morning Has Broken, incl Bells on Sunday from St Sepulchre, Holborn Viaduct **6.55** Weather **7.00** News **7.10** Sunday Papers **7.15** The Living World (r) **7.40** Sunday **7.55** Weather **8.00** News **8.10** Sunday Papers
8.50 Jill Dando talks for the *Week's Good Cause* about the work of Spurgeon's Child Care **8.55** Weather
9.00 News 9.10 Sunday Papers
9.15 Letter from America (r)
9.30 Morning Service from St John's Methodist Church, Llandudno
10.15 The Archers: Omnibus edition
11.15 News Stand, presented by Hugh Prysor-Jones
11.30 Pick of the Week (r)
12.15pm Desert Island Discs: Sue Lawley's castaway is General Eva Burrows of the Salvation Army **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World This Weekend, with Nick Clarke **1.55** Shipping
2.00 Gardeners' Question Time: Members and friends of Writtle College in Essex put their questions to the experts
2.30 Classic Serial: My Son, My Son. The first of a five-part dramatisation of Howard Spring's saga about two families. With Ronald Pickup as William Essex (1/5)
3.30 Sweet and Inspiration: The Lighthouse. The first of five engineering feats from the 19th century. The civil engineer Dr Mark Raiss tells the story of the construction of Robert Stevenson's Bell Rock lighthouse
4.00 News; Analysis: The powers and accountability of secretaries of state and other government ministers (r)
4.47 Treasure Islands: Jill Burridge assesses the impact on the publishing business of Dorling Kindersley
5.00 News; A Journal of a Tour to the Hebrides (r)
5.30 Poetry Please! Simon Rae chairs the final round of a quiz to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the Poetry Library in London **5.50** Shipping **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.15 The Village (r)
6.30 Wilko's Spain: Madrid. Tony Wilkinson spends a week with the Madrid section of *El País,* Spain's campaigning socialist newspaper (r)
7.00 In Business: Infomania (r)
7.30 Bookshelf: Nigel Forde investigates the life of Robert Louis Stevenson (r)
8.00 The Prospect of Hanging: Martyn Wiley talks to retired miner Syd Demley about his former part-time job as a hangman
8.30 Reading Aloud: The Attack on the Dams, by J.E. Morpurgo. Francis Matthews *reads from the biography of* Barnes Wallis, the inventor of the *"Dambusters" bouncing* bombs
9.00 The Natural History Programme (r)
9.30 Special Assignment 9.59 Weather **10.00 News**
10.15 Ten Years In Conflict: Sally Magnusson traces the story of the decade of conflict between church and state in Scotland, which culminated in the Disruption of 1843
11.00 In Committee, with Michael Fairbairn
11.30 Seeds of Faith: Singing the Faith. *Ian Bradley examines* the contrasting messages in *contemporary Christian songs*
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.20** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW only)

CHOICE

1968 Season: Early Morning. *Radio 3, 7.30pm.*
Edward Bond's farcical nightmare was the last play to run foul of the Lord Chamberlain before his office was axed. Like Bond's *Saved,* it helped to speed up the abolition. Twenty-five years later, it still has the power to shock, disgust, and disorientate us — and make us laugh. This is a hate-filled Victorian England, with flash-forwards to Radio 1. Florence Nightingale is seduced by Victoria, who strangles Albert. Cannibalism is rife, on earth and in heaven. James Villiers plays the coup-plotter Disraeli and Margaret Courtenay the killer queen.

The Ascent of Rum Doodle. *World Service, 1.01pm.*
Tune in to Bush House for some light relief from the life-threatening reality of the current Everest assault course. Penny Leicester has adapted W.E. Bowman's comic novel about an attempt on an Himalayan peak as improbably named as its would-be conquerors. They include *Humphrey* Jungle (route-finer, third class), Ridley Prone (hypochondriac) and Tom Burley (very burly). Avalanches are predictable hazards at 40,000½ feet. Bad cooking, and its associated symptom, belching, are not. **Peter Davalle**

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. **4.00am** Neale James (FM until **6.00am**) **7.00** Gary Davies **10.00** Dave Lee Travis **1.00pm** Number Ones on 1FM **2.30** Rockline **4.00** The UK Top 40 **7.00** The Official 1FM Album Chart **8.00** Anne Nightingale's Request Show **10.00** Gary Davies (FM from **12.00**) **1.00am** Claire Sturgess (FM)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Barbara Sturgeon **7.00** Don Maclean **9.05** John Sachs **10.30** Hayes on Sunday **12.00** Desmond Carrington **2.00pm** Benny Green **3.00** Alan Dell **4.00** Radio 2 Young Musician 1993 **4.30** Sing Something Simple (r) **5.00** Roger Royle **7.00** Richard Baker *with Melodies for You 8.30 Sunday Half Hour* from Old St Paul's Church, Edinburgh **9.00** Alan Keith with Your Hundred Best Tunes **10.00** Radio 2 Arts Programme **12.05am** *John Terrett 3.00-5.00 Alex Lester*

RADIO 5

News and sport on the hour until **2.00pm. 6.00am** *World Service: Newshour* **8.30** Mark Curry's Weekend Edition **9.30** The Spring Queen (final part) **10.00** Johnnie Walker with *The AM Alternative Omnibus* **11.30** One Day in a Life: Kevin Devine of *That's Life* (r) **12.10pm** Education Matters **12.40** Open Forum **1.00** Sunday Sport: cricket; football; rugby league; *motor cycling:* Austrian 500cc grand prix **7.20** Open University: Science — The New Curiosity Shop. **7.40** Art Works — South African Theatre After Apartheid; **8.00** Art and Illusion. *8.20 Biology Brain and Behaviour.* **8.40** Mathematics — Countdown to Angles. **9.00** Open Forum, **9.20** Literature and Ideology **9.40** Witness to Change **10.10** Across the Line **12.00-12.10am** *News; Sport*

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **BST. 4.30am** BBC English **4.45** *News and Press Review in German* **5.00** Sunday Feature. Tips für Touristen **5.30** Short Story: Samuel's Story **5.45** Pop the Question **6.00** News **7.10** News *About Britain* **7.15** Printer's Devil **7.30** Jazz for the Asking **8.00** News **8.30** From Our Own Correspondent **8.50** Write On **9.00** News **9.10** Words of Faith **9.15** Classics with *Kay 10.09 World Business Review* **10.15** Short Story: Samuel's Story **10.30** Folk Routes **10.45** Sport **11.01** Science in Action **11.30** BBC English **11.45** News and *Press Review in German* **Noon** News **12.30pm** *The Ken Bruce Show* **1.01** Play of the Week. The Ascent of Rum Doodle. See Choice **2.00** News **3.01** Cold Comfort **3.30** Anything Goes **4.00** *News 4.15 BBC English* **4.30** *News and Features in German* **5.00** News **5.10** News About Britain **5.15** The Language of Flowers **5.45** Letter from America **6.00** BBC English **6.30** *News and Features in German 8.00 Classic Recordings* **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** News **9.10** Words of Faith **9.15** Folk Routes **9.30** Brain of Britain **10.00** News **11.10** News About Britain **11.15** *Short Story: Samuel's Story 11.30 Letter from America* **11.45** Sport **12.05am** World Business Review **12.15** Classics with Kay **1.00** News **1.30** In Praise of God **2.01** Desire, Danger *and the Devil* **2.45** *World Bandstand* **3.00** News **3.30** Composer of the Month: Berlioz **4.00** News **4.10** News About Britain **4.15** Sport

CLASSIC FM

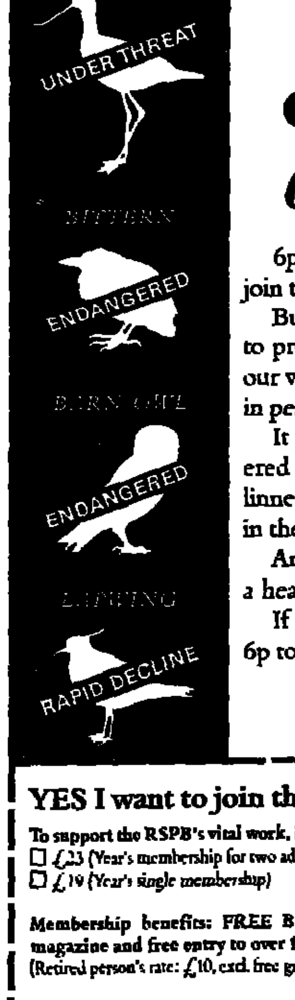
6.00am Sarah Lucas 9.00 Classic Romance **12.00** Celebrity Choice. Loyd Grossman *1.00pm Nicky Horne 3.00 Robert Booth 7.00* Authentic Performance **8.00** Evening Concert. London Classical Players perform Beethoven (Symphony No 9) **10.00** Contemporary *Classics 12.00-6.00am André Leon*

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Graham Dene **10.00** Classic Tracks *with Kevin Greening 4.00 The Virgin-Label's* Album Chart with Russ Williams **7.00** Jonathan Coleman **10.00** *Neil Abbot 2.00-6.00am Sandy Beach*

RADIO 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; FM-97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2:** FM-88-90.2. ***RADIO 3:*** FM-90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4:** 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6. **RADIO 5:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. **LBC:** *1152kHz/261m;* FM 97.3. **CAPITAL:** 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. **GLR:** 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; **WORLD SERVICE:** MW 648kHz/463m. **CLASSIC FM:** FM-100-102. **VIRGIN:** MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. ***COMPILED BY MIKE STRUTT AND GILLIAN MAXEY***

URGENT APPEAL



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But it means you'll be helping to provide nature reserves where our wild birds can feed and breed in peace.

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☐ Cheque/Postal Order (payable to RSPB) ☐ Access/Visa
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Address ________
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DAVID FLUSFEDER PREVIEWS THE BEST OF NEXT WEEK'S TELEVISION

If the wig fits, learn to wear it



There are two big sporting events this weekend — the FA Cup Final today and the Mastermind final tomorrow. Also tomorrow, the BBC starts its four-week *Crime and Punishment* season of films and documentaries examining the virtues and vices of the British legal system. But the highlight of the week is a chilling — and visually stunning — film of Germans celebrating their German-ness in 1939.

Crime and Punishment: Inside the Wig
Tomorrow, BBC2, 8.30pm
For three-and-a-half days each year 120 lawyers return to the classroom, where they are made to feel weedy and inadequate. At the end of the course they'll get told how marvellous they are, and they'll have got through another stage in becoming a judge.

This absorbing programme shows the trials of these would-be judges. Some have little or no contact with criminal law; all need coaching in recent developments in the law (as well as taking a well-intentioned but weirdly old-fashioned seminar on Afro-Caribbean body language); but the main problem all the aspirants come up against is the hard fact of having to sentence people to prison.

A tutor judge, who is a dead ringer for Miss Moneypenny in the Bond films, takes them through sentencing exercises which show just how lenient their punishments all are ("suspended sentence", "suspended sentence", "suspended sentence"), compared to those in the actual cases: "They are, if I may say so, on the whole, custodial sentences," says Miss Moneypenny's suave friend. To become a judge, it seems, is a matter of reaching a stern cold place where there is no room for empathy.

"If I'd had the aptitude I'd have liked to have been a mountaineer actually, but I didn't have the technical skill or the head for heights," says one of the aspirants, and then a brief worried frown crosses his face, and you know that he's suddenly realised that compared to judging, a mountaineer's life is a doddle.

Crime and Punishment: Bad Company
Monday and Wednesday, BBC2, 9pm
This is the dramatisation of the murder enquiry, court case and aftermath of the murder of the newspaperboy, Carl Bridgewater, in 1978. It was one of those crimes that outraged public opinion, putting a desperate pressure on the West Midlands police to get a result. The outcome was that three men and a boy were found guilty of the crime as a result of some dubious evidence.

The boy, Michael Hickey, was 16 at the time of the killing, therefore too young to be given a prison sentence, and instead was ordered to be detained at her majesty's pleasure.

Hickey is still in prison, despite the efforts of his mother, who continues to campaign to establish his innocence, and despite the efforts of Paul Foot (played here by Angus Deayton in his first straight TV role — disappointingly, he doesn't try to get into character by styling his wispy coif into Foot's distinctive pudding-basin fringe).

It is a worthy study of procedure, narrated from the point of view of Hickey's mother, which raises a lot of important questions about the police, the courts and the prisons. But it really comes to life only when it's concentrating on the low-life milieu of Midlands pubs and, most of all, in the second part when Hickey is in prison.

Convinced that applying to be sectioned away for his own safety would be an admission of guilt, Hickey submits to the brutal punishment doled out in fists, boots and knives from a prison population that has a special contempt for child killers. The story of Hickey's near-martyrdom is where the programme's slightly flat, anecdotal style really works best.

Naked Sport: The Big Pitch
Monday, Channel 4, 9pm
An absolutely gripping study of the types who dignify themselves with the title of "agent" for American football players. Ed King, a lawyer, adopts the right cynical tone: "An athlete without an agent is an athlete. An agent without an athlete is a homeless person." In this programme we meet a young college footballer who is about to enter the professional world, and we meet the agents who sought to represent him. One has the disarming speech habit of shouting out the last syllable of every sentence, accompanied by a sudden headbutt into the air ("Darryl is an ideal candidate for me to hopefully repreSENT!!").

The agent who was eventually successful has an open, boyish face, a charming smile, nice manners, and was rather more convincing on financial than emotional matters: "I was very glad that Darryl decided to go with me. I liked Darryl a real lot as a person. I think I would have missed his friendship if nothing else if I didn't get him as a client."

And then we're introduced to the world of the big boys. The exemplary figure here is Norby Walters, a screaming, strutting racketeer of an agent. His former Mafia protector coolly, frighteningly, says of his one-time associate (who was not known for his readiness to settle his debts): "There was a time when the Family was extremely annoyed with him." Thankfully for his clients, Walters is now in a federal jail. Thankfully perhaps for Norby too.

Without Walls: Good Morning, Mr Hitler
Tuesday, Channel 4, 9pm
It's the summer of 1939, the buildings of Munich are festooned with giant eagle banners, floats crammed with girls pretending to be Rhine-maidens sail slowly down the streets, shopkeepers dressed as medieval knights and carrying swastika shields ride grandly ahead, and there's a jaunty looking Chaplin-moustached man taking pride and pleasure in it all.

An amateur film-maker shot footage of the third Munich festival of art and culture which has only recently come to light. The film itself is fascinating — and it looks beautiful, with its washed Kodachrome colours — the studied informality of all the main Nazi bosses enjoying their kitschy festival of culture.

But the programme makers, Luke Holland and Paul Yule, add another layer of meaning to this. They showed the footage to a group of Munich natives, all of whom remember the day with fondness (except, unsurprisingly, for the one Jewish woman among them), and some of whom actually took part in the grand parade.

The really frightening thing about this programme is not the footage of happy Hitler and his cohorts — they have been too demonised over the years to appear entirely real — but the attitude of the Munich women, these pleasant-looking old biddies who gaze nostalgically at the images of their youth.

"The weather was always wonderful for the parades. People called it Hitler weather," remembers one of them. "It was beautiful and uplifting," says another, who happens to be the daughter of the publisher of *Mein Kampf*. "It was very, very precious." It takes the Jewish woman to put this all into context: "It's incomprehensible that people could be so joyful when only 20 kilometres away the Dachau concentration camp was packed with people."

Inside Story: Old, Dirty and Late
Wednesday, BBC1, 9.30pm
A week in the life of the BR London to Kent commuter line. "I think it stinks," says one commuter. "That's been cancelled, mate," says a control box manager, "and that's been cancelled as well. Basically, we're a broken railway." "I only applied to British Rail as a joke," says a conductor. "I wash my hands of it," says the mobile operations manager. He's a cheerful man who has learnt the necessity of wearing a clip-on tie, "so if a passenger grabs me by it and yanks it, it will come off".

Most of the BR people actually come out of this programme quite well. The exceptions are the ones at the top. As one disconsolate driver says: "There's this corporate image that says if you change the names of things or the colour of things . . . that somehow the service magically gets better . . . you're looking at a service that's falling apart."

And at the bottom there are the commuters (no longer "passengers", we're all "customers" now), the sardine martyrs of a decaying system.

The Comic Strip Presents: Demonella
Thursday, BBC2, 9pm
Jennifer Saunders is the songwriter from hell and Robbie Coltrane is the music publisher from Palookaville. The result of their meeting is the hit song "Demonella" ("it's awful but it's catchy"), a foxtrot that sells millions around the world.

It makes Coltrane his fortune, but he still can't win the love of his gum-chewing secretary; and then, to make matters worse, the songwriter returns, to announce the terms of their Faustian pact: she needs to have Coltrane's mother's recipe for chicken soup to satisfy the demanding taste of her guests at the dinner party she hosts every Friday night down Hades way.

Demonella is easily the best so far of a patchy *Comic Strip* season, and that's because it's co-written and directed by Paul Bartel, a dab hand at turning cliché into good, sometimes uncomfortable humour.

True Stories: Death of a Wagon Train
Thursday, Channel 4, 9.35pm
Made by Ric Burns, who is best known for the Civil War series, this is a wonderful documentary of the families of the Donner party who undertook a tragic 2,500-mile journey by covered wagons to California in 1856. They endured a journey across deserts, plains and mountain ranges in the pioneering urge to find Utopia. Some made it through, some died along the way — usually as a result of foolish leaders and sheepish followers.

The programme is composed in the same way as *Civil War* — contemporary photographs and paintings, journal entries read out, redolent music swirling across the top — and is an object lesson of how to present history on television.

First Frame: Lady in Waiting
Thursday, Channel 4, 11.35pm
A half-hour film starring Virginia McKenna, which is about a repressed English spinster and a sentimental New York transvestite ("You're the most alien person I've ever met") stuck in an elevator together.

It's a simple premise that opens up into a sweet, sentimental tale.



Inside the wig: would-be judges tend to tip the scales of justice in favour of leniency

BEST FILMS

TODAY
Silk Stockings 1957, US (C4, 2.40pm)
The Duellists 1977, GB (BBC2, 11pm)
TOMORROW
Ocean's Eleven 1960, US (BBC1, 3pm)
The Accused 1988, US (BBC2, 10.20pm)
MONDAY
Angels Over Broadway 1940, US (C4, 2pm)
The Naked Truth 1957, GB (BBC2, 4pm)
TUESDAY
The Day the Earth Stood Still 1951, US (C4, 10pm)
THURSDAY
Queen Bee 1955, US (C4, 2pm)

BEST SPORT

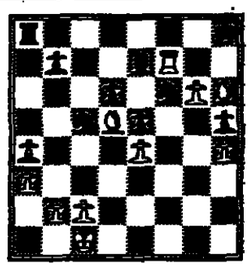
TODAY
FA Cup Final (BBC1, 3pm)
Boxing: Chris Eubank v Ray Close (ITV, 9.30pm)
TOMORROW
Football Italia (C4, 2.45pm)
Mastermind: The Final (BBC1, 10pm)
WEDNESDAY
Cricket: one-day international, England v Australia (BBC1, 10.40am; BBC2, 2.15pm)

SCHOOLS

TODAY
Eurovision Song Contest (BBC1, 8pm)

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent



This position is taken from the game Rasidovic — Prohorov, Yugoslavia 1982. White has sacrificed a piece, and has the opportunity to regain it with 1 Rxe7. Is this his most advisable course of action, or does he have something stronger?

Send your answer on a postcard with your name and address to: *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday next week will win a British Chess Magazine book. The answer and the winners will be printed in *The Times* on the following Saturday.

Solution to last Saturday's competition: 1 Be4. The winners are: D. Brown, Liverpool; D. Martin, Stanmore; D.B. Sugden, Huntingdon.

Championship Chess Section 1, page 8

WORD-WATCHING

By PHILIP HOWARD

RIDLEY
a. Waterproof overcoat
b. A hay-baler
c. A turtle

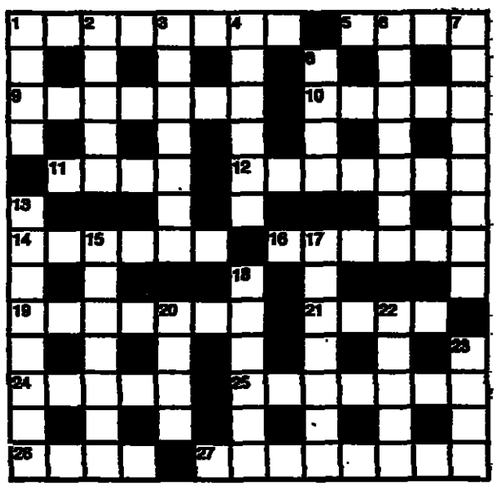
KERESAN
a. A Japanese honorific
b. Amerindian languages
c. To do with corn goddesses

TAM-TAM
a. A Chinese gong
b. A lubricious Tahitian dance
c. Sweet rice pancakes

COUBA
a. Graduate of Columbia University
b. A card game
c. An acacia

Answers on page 13

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 3097



ACROSS
1 Surrender (4,4)
5 Gulf War missile (4)
9 Dieted to get thin (7)
10 Copper/zinc alloy (5)
11 Young hawk (4)
12 Checking over (7)
14 Bog (6)
16 Plan (6)
19 Hot sauce (7)
21 Anger (4)
24 Canada gold territory (5)
25 Glossy coating (7)
26 Neat (4)
27 In pairs (3,2,3)

DOWN
1 Reheated diced dish (4)
2 Clamorous (5)
3 Gradual assimilation (7)
4 Curly leaf salad plant (6)
6 Mass cup (7)
7 Fashion specialist (8)
8 Encourage, assist (4)
13 Violet gemstone (8)
15 Reprimanded (7)
17 Maize ear centre (7)
18 Come after (6)
20 Rock grains (4)
22 Short gruff noise (5)
23 Therefore (4)

SOLUTIONS TO NO 3096
ACROSS: 1 Pass down 7 Racer 8 Obtrusive 9 Lax 10 Flog 11 Pent up 13 Ringer 14 Proved 19 Fillet 20 Bloc 21 Jar 23 Hudson Bay 24 Rummy 25 Gradient
DOWN: 1 Proffer 2 Set down 3 Drum 4 Waiver 5 Scalp 6 Proxy 7 Restore 12 Healthy 15 Voluble 16 Decrypt 17 Reader 18 Fjord 19 Frame 22 Bond

Famously notorious

Outrage is all the rage for the Doug Anthony All-Stars



"IF YOU can't think of anything pleasant to say, don't say anything at all," my mum is fond of saying. If the Doug Anthony All-Stars abided by this rule, they would only be doing gigs in deaf clubs using sign language.



All-stars: from left, Richard, Paul and Tim, getting bigger

Were the All-Stars asked to name their formative influences, they would probably say "Satan". The All-Stars are big on Satan. Tim claims that the horned one changed his life for the better, and hey! Who are we to argue?

The All-Stars are big and getting bigger — their show ran for three series in Australia, herding in eight million viewers to watch various All-Stars being electrocuted, tortured and drowned.

Is there any reason behind the huge gaping vacuums in their souls? Well, as always, childhoods come into it.

"Doug Anthony was a cult figure in the 1950s," Tim drawls. Tim is very Australian. Every single member of the All-Stars is blatantly Australian, and unashamed of the fact. "In 1956, he set up a Utopia in the Whit Sunday Islands, populated by puritan vegans who didn't have sex. Some time in the 1970s he went quite mad and turned to Satan: he was a national joke in Australia."

So what relevance does this have to the All-Stars? "All our parents were involved. My father was a journalist, very sceptical; so he joined and then left. My mother's still into it. I didn't see an egg for the first seven years of my life," Tim recalls. "Richard's parents are still into it; Paul's parents got into it and got out of it."

Originally in various theatre groups, busking set-ups and art colleges, knocking around in the early 1980s, the All-Stars turned their acid (as in corroding) wit to cabaret because, as Tim says: "Theatre was just too easy. Anyone could do theatre — we wanted to do something trickier, something harder."

And so they became the Doug Anthony All-Stars, purveyors of outrage to *your* home town. Describing their act is quite hard — it's like trying to pack all your possessions into one very small carrier bag.

Notorious for being, well, notorious in Australia, they made their television début on the antipodean version of *The Tonight Show*. For weeks beforehand, Australia was in uproar. What would the All-Stars say and do?

Broadcast night came. Viewers were warned in voice-overs that what followed could be upsetting to those of a delicate disposition. People were asked to turn off their televisions if easily offended. The All-Stars finally came on air, with a nation poised to write letters of protest and swamp the television company with indignant telephone calls. Tim, Paul and Richard sauntered on stage in bolero jackets, delivered a note-perfect rendition of "I Heard it Through the Grapevine", and sauntered off again.

The basic premise of their act is that they're three buskers, psycho-babbling about the world and their place in it. Occasionally Richard will try to sing a song before the others sabotage his muse, a kind of vitriol-fuelled Morecambe and Wise plus one.

At times the humour can be savagely cruel — there are no boundaries to subject matter. Do they think it's fair to humiliate people in the audience as they often do? "I don't think we *humiliate* people," Tim says, momentarily stunned. "Do you think we humiliate people?" Well, yeah. You pick out audience members and, well, *pick on them*.

"Oh, well, we never pick on *obvious* things," Paul says. "If they were fat or had a speech impediment we wouldn't be cruel about that. We just pick them up on things they say."

"And if they heckle," Tim says, his eyes glinting, "they're fair game. Anyone who comes to one of our gigs should know that if you open your big fat mouth, you're in trouble. If you heckle, we will pull out all the stops, and we won't stop until you're in tears, none of your family are talking to you, and strangers cross the street to avoid you."

The audience never gets the hardest slashes of the All-Stars' razor wit, however — they're more cruel to each other than they are to the rest of the world, constantly grinding into each other's weak points until the most victimised explodes in mock tears, outrage, or, better still, an icily delivered ultimate put-down. They're very fond of telling one another that no one loves them. And behind all this desire to be, seemingly, hated by everyone, lies phenomenal business sense.

"Here, look at our album," Tim says. "Tell me which multinational company owns our copyright? None. We own the rights to all our books, albums, T-shirts, stickers, postcards, videos. We designed all our merchandise. We don't have multinational companies killing dolphins and chopping down rainforests in our name."

"We do all that ourselves," Paul finishes.

CAITLIN MORAN

● *The Doug Anthony All-Stars will be on* Viva Cabaret *on Channel 4 on Wednesday at 10.30pm.*

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